



Daily Report—

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-88-200
Monday
17 October 1988

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-88-200

CONTENTS

17 October 1988

NOTICE TO READERS: For the three months beginning in November, material formerly appearing in the JPRS EAST ASIA/KOREA and EAST ASIA/JAPAN REPORTS will instead be published on a trial basis in the FBIS EAST ASIA DAILY REPORT.

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

Cambodia Working Group Opens 3-Day Meeting	1
Talks To Be Held in Jakarta <i>[Jakarta]</i>	1
Cambodian Factions' Delegates Arrive <i>[Jakarta]</i>	1
Talks Open; Khmer Rouge Absent <i>[AFP]</i>	1
VOK Reports on Delegations' Members	1
SRV Submits Proposals <i>[AFP]</i>	2
Meeting Adjourns After First Session <i>[AFP]</i>	2

NORTHEAST ASIA

North Korea

CPRF Clarifies Stand on Summit Talks	4
CPRF Issues Statement	4
'Text' of Statement	6
Commentary Reviews Statement	8
Daily Views 'False Propaganda' of South	9
South Trade Proposal Seen as 'Splittist Move'	10
Anniversary of Relations With USSR Marked	10
WPK Delegation Departs for Soviet Union	11
Choe Tae-pok Meets CPC Delegations	11
China Delegations Arrive in Pyongyang	11
Envoy to Hungary Reportedly Recalled in Protest <i>[KYODO]</i>	11
Hwang Chang-yop Holds Talks in Sofia	11

South Korea

CPRF Statement on Talks Called 'Affirmative'	11
Customs Office at Panmunjom Considered	12
Swedish Minister Barred From Crossing DMZ	12
4 Arrested for Attack on U.S. Cultural Center <i>[THE KOREA TIMES 15 Oct]</i>	12
President No Leaves for New York, Washington	13
No To Present Peace Plan at UN <i>[THE KOREA TIMES 15 Oct]</i>	13
No Plans for U.S. Visit	13
Annual Economic Talks With U.S. Set <i>[THE KOREA HERALD 16 Oct]</i>	14
Meeting With U.S. Business Council Held <i>[THE KOREA TIMES 16 Oct]</i>	14
U.S., USSR Institutes on Korean Peninsula <i>[THE KOREA HERALD 16 Oct]</i>	15
USSR Policy Towards North, South Noted <i>[THE KOREA HERALD 15 Oct]</i>	16
KOTFA, USSR Group Exchange Memorandum	16
Soviet Official 'Satisfied' With Talks	16
Cigarette Joint Venture Planned for China <i>[THE KOREA TIMES 16 Oct]</i>	17
Westward Flights Not To Refuel in China <i>[SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST 13 Oct]</i>	17
No Tae-u Meets With JSP's Ishibashi	18
Further on Talks <i>[KYODO]</i>	18
No Wants Closer Ties With JSP <i>[THE KOREA TIMES 15 Oct]</i>	19
Ishibashi Willing To Improve Ties <i>[THE KOREA HERALD 16 Oct]</i>	19
JSP To Review Policy on South <i>[KYODO]</i>	20

Ishibashi Meets With Press	20
Finance Ministry Issues List on Import Items	21
No Tells Ministers To Push Economic Policy /THE KOREA HERALD 15 Oct/	21
Former First Lady Yi Sun-cha Willing To Testify /THE KOREA TIMES 15 Oct/	21
To Reveal Saesedae Donors /THE KOREA TIMES 15 Oct/	22
Prepared To Testify Before Panel /THE KOREA TIMES 16 Oct/	23
Assembly Panel To Summon Ex-KCIA Chief /THE KOREA HERALD 16 Oct/	23
Ministry Forms Committee on Military Neutrality /THE KOREA HERALD 14 Oct/	23
RDP Seeks Limits on Defense Security Command /THE KOREA TIMES 15 Oct/	24
NSP Director Taking Steps To Ensure Reform /THE KOREA HERALD 15 Oct/	24
Assembly Says NSP 'Meddling' /THE KOREA TIMES 15 Oct/	25
Abolition of DSC Urged /THE KOREA TIMES 16 Oct/	26
DJP, Government Disagree on Rice Price Hike /THE KOREA HERALD 16 Oct/	27

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

Elections Commission Meets Political Parties	28
Elections Delayed Until Early 1989 /KYODO/	28
National Unity Party Officially Registered	29
'Disarray' in NUP Reported /AFP/	29
Democratic Party for New Society Registers	30
Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League Policies	30
Youth Federation's Objectives, Programs Cited	31
Security Units Search Rangoon General Hospital	31
BBC Reports Blamed for Destabilizing Situation	31
Students, Worker Return From KNU Insurgents	31

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Offers To Open Talks With Rivals	32
Offer Likely To Be Rejected /AFP/	32
UMNO Officials Comment	33
Mahathir Says Musa Hitam Statements 'Baseless'	33
Musa Hitam Comments	33
VOMD Sees Obstacles To Trade With PRC	33

Cambodia

SPK Version of SRV Pullout 'Communique'	34
Thai Intrusions in Week Ending 1 October	34
VNA Group Arrives for 2-Week Working Visit	35
Hun Sen Visits Koh Kong Province 8-10 October	35
Ney Pena Marks Party Paper's Third Anniversary	35
Meeting Sets UNICEF Cooperation for 1989-91	35
Report on Son Sann's Address at United Nations /VODK/	35
Khieu Samphan Departs New York 11 October /VODK/	36
DK Army Seizes SRV Artillery Post in Samlot /VONADK/	37
DK Army Attack on Battambang Reported /VONADK/	37

Laos

Delegation Leaves for Jakarta Conference	37
Deputy Foreign Minister Speaks at UN Session	37
Military Delegation Leaves for Thailand	38
Academics Team Returns From Thailand	38
LPRP Delegation Departs for Phnom Penh	38
FRG State Minister To Visit 15-18 October	38

Philippines

Reportage on Agreement Reached on U.S. Bases	39
Aquino Makes Announcement	39
Aquino Awaits Manglapus' Report	39
Benigno on Bases Accord	39
Enrile Comments on Accord	40
Senators Express 'Disappointment'	40
Adm Crowe Comments on Agreement	41
Reactions to Bases Accord /PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE 17 Oct/	41
Bases Treaty Called 'Betrayal'	42
Manglapus' Performance Viewed /PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 17 Oct/	42
Newspaper Reports Manglapus' Talks in U.S. /MALAYA 15 Oct/	43
Thai Daily Interviews Salonga, Laurel on Bases /BANGKOK POST 15 Oct/	44
Sison Interviewed on U.S. Bases, Other Issues /NATIONAL MIDWEEK 12 Oct/	45
Ban on Carrying Firearms Effective 15 October	46
Ramos Says CAFGU Will Solve Insurgency	46
Rally Protests Creation of Vigilante Groups	46
Captive Officer Shot Dead in 'Escape' Attempt /AFP/	47
Baula Death Investigated	47
Deliberate Killing Denied	47
Communist Rebel Leader Reportedly Arrested /AFP/	47
Top Communist Escapes From Detention Cell /MANILA BULLETIN 12 Oct/	48
Larrazabal's Kidnappers Said Killed in Bombing	48
Military Ordered Not To Start Trouble in Sulu	48

Thailand

Chatchai Comments on U.S. Trade Relations /BANGKOK POST 17 Oct/	48
Columnist Supports Drug Patent Law /NAEO NA 10 Oct/	49
Paper Reports on Arrest of Americans in Laos /THAI RAT 12 Oct/	50
Chatchai Rejects Border Development Proposal /BANGKOK POST 17 Oct/	51
Preview To Talks With Lao Military Delegation /BANGKOK POST 16 Oct/	51
ASEAN Dilemma on Cambodia Issue Viewed /BANGKOK POST 13 Oct/	51
Talks Held With SRV Vice Foreign Minister /THE NATION 15 Oct/	52
Two Burmese Student Leaders Arrested in Bangkok /BANGKOK POST 15 Oct/	52
Daily Views Burmese Student Struggle /THE NATION 15 Oct/	53
'Restraint' Urged in Presenting Foreign News /THE NATION 13 Oct/	53
Chawalit Signs Military Reshuffle Order /BANGKOK POST 16 Oct/	54

Vietnam

'Joint Communique' Issued on Troop Withdrawal	54
Hanoi Notes Soviet, French Remarks on Cambodia	54
U.S. Opposition to Khmer Rouge Cited	54
Talks in Bangkok Prepare for Jakarta Meeting	55
Vietnam Socialist Party Disbanded After 42 Years	55
Trade Union Congress Opening Reported	55
Do Muoi on Union Activities	55
News Conference Held in Hanoi	55
Foreign Delegations Arrive	56
Further on Foreign Delegations	56
Congress Opens; Nguyen Van Linh Speaks	56
Further on Congress Opening	57
Delegation Visits UK To Discuss Refugee Problems	57
State Council Leader Speaks at VFF Congress	58
Agreement on Australian Satellite Stations	58
NHAN DAN Editor at Conference in New York	58
Situation of Vietnamese Workers in Ukraine	58

Cambodia Working Group Opens 3-Day Meeting

Talks To Be Held in Jakarta

BK1610044888 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian
0000 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] About 50 senior officials from Indonesia, Thailand, Brunei Darussalam, the Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the KPNLF group, and FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia] will meet in Jakarta tomorrow to discuss measures to solve the Cambodian issue.

The meeting of the Jakarta informal meeting, JIM, working group that will be held for 3 days will also recommend future meetings. The term given to the working group to carry out its duties will expire in December 1988.

Cambodian Factions' Delegates Arrive

BK1610152988 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian
1500 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Representatives of the four warring Cambodian factions have arrived in Jakarta to continue the Jakarta informal meeting tomorrow. The meeting will also be attended by delegations from ASEAN, Vietnam, and Laos.

Meanwhile, it has been reported from Hanoi that Vietnam and the Cambodian communist regime have reiterated their statement on the withdrawal of SRV troops from the occupied territory [Cambodia] by the end of this year at the latest. Today's statement released by the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY also said that Hanoi had withdrawn most of its troops since last July and that the whole process would end next December.

Talks Open; Khmer Rouge Absent

BK1710044288 Hong Kong AFP in English 0426 GMT
17 Oct 88

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 17 (AFP)—Talks on Cambodia opened on schedule here Monday [17 October] despite the unexplained absence of the Khmer Rouge faction.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said he regretted the absence of the Khmer Rouge, but suggested they might still turn up for the talks.

"I don't think we should wait for any one party," he said, adding that the Khmer Rouge could also return to the Cambodian peace process "post facto," or in a later round of meetings.

Present in Jakarta were delegates from the other two Cambodian resistance factions representing Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former premier Son Sann, the Hanoi-backed government in Phnom Penh, Vietnam, Laos and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Three days of closed sessions were scheduled as a follow-up to a regional conference in Bogor in July where the Khmer Rouge came under fire for their policies as rulers of Cambodia from 1975 to 1979.

VOK Reports on Delegations' Members

BK1710074088 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 17 Oct 88

[VOK correspondent Pol Ham's dispatch from Jakarta on arrival of delegations attending the working meeting on Cambodia; date not given—recorded]

[Text] Delegations of various parties to attend the conference of the Cambodia working group to be held on Monday [17 October], following last July's Jakarta informal meeting, arrived in Jakarta with the exception of the Khmer Rouge delegation. It was speculated that the Khmer Rouge might not attend this meeting.

On Sunday evening, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas invited all delegations to a banquet at the Saripacific Hotel, the conference site and resting place of the delegations.

No reaction has been reported concerning the absence of the Khmer Rouge delegation. Attending this meeting are the delegation of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, led by Son Soubert with General Thach Reng as member; the delegation of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia Led by Chak Sarik with Bou Laisreng and (Chau Samritsdei) as members; the delegation of the Heng Samrin party, led by Hor Nam Hong with Sok An and Pich Sam-ang as members; the Vietnamese delegation, led by Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co; the Lao delegation, led by Deputy Foreign Minister Soulivong Prasith high-ranking foreign ministry officials; Brunei's delegation was led by (Abu Salim Hussein), permanent secretary of the Foreign Ministry; the Thai delegation by Thep Thewakun, Foreign Ministry political affairs director general; the Malaysian delegation by Abdul Aziz Mohamed, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry; the Singapore delegation by Barry Desker, Singapore ambassador to Indonesia; the Philippine delegation by Mrs (Lora Malaro Valentino), director general of the Foreign Ministry's Cultural, Information, and Public Affairs Bureau; and the Indonesian delegation by Louhanapessy, director of political affairs attached to the Indonesian Foreign Ministry.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas planned to open the conference tomorrow [as heard]. We do not know the cause of the Khmer Rouge absence, nor do we know how the meeting will proceed Monday without the presence of the Khmer Rouge.

SRV Submits Proposals

BK1710135688 Hong Kong AFP in English 1348 GMT
17 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Jakarta, Oct 17 (AFP)—Vietnam submitted written proposals for a Cambodian settlement Monday to a regional conference seeking a peaceful solution to the conflict.

Contents of the document were not immediately disclosed, but it was understood to include concrete proposals on the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from the war-torn country.

A Vietnamese spokesman called earlier this month for talks on a timetable for the troop pullout alongside a halt to foreign military aid to opposing Cambodian factions.

The Jakarta meeting meanwhile scrapped almost immediately a tentative agenda calling for three days of full sessions after the Khmer Rouge resistance faction failed to turn up for the Jakarta talks.

The meeting—grouping Vietnam, Laos, the Hanoi-backed government in Phnom Penh, two Cambodian resistance factions and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—broke up into small groups for consultations after just a half-day session.

"We are studying the proposals for anything new and important," Indonesian Foreign Ministry official Hasjim Djalal said.

Asean members Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand conferred during the afternoon, while the Cambodians separated to "study their positions," conference sources said.

Vietnamese delegates left before the working lunch to return to their embassy.

Several participants said the talks would go ahead as scheduled through Wednesday, with or without the Khmer Rouge, who gave no official explanation for their absence.

The two resistance factions present are supporters of Prince Norodom Sihanouk and those of former Son Sann.

Militarily the strongest of the three resistance factions, the Khmer Rouge have become increasingly isolated diplomatically, accused of killing hundreds of thousands of Cambodians during their four-year rule in the late 1970s.

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas of Indonesia, saying there was "no news yet" from the Khmer Rouge, refused to rule out the possibility that they would turn up before the end of the official-level meeting.

Several delegates said they saw little chance the Khmer Rouge would join the talks now, but suggested they might return at a later stage of discussions.

"If they agree, even after the fact, there is nothing to prevent them from joining," a delegate said.

Singapore's chief delegate, Ambassador to Indonesia Barry Desker, stressed the preliminary nature of the Jakarta meeting. "This is not going to be the place where an agreement is worked out," he said. [passage omitted]

Meeting Adjourns After First Session

BK1710111888 Hong Kong AFP in English 1042 GMT
17 Oct 88

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 17 (AFP)—Regional talks on Cambodia's future broke up into small groups for consultations Monday after just a half-day session.

Conference sources described the morning meeting as "lively" and characterized by frank discussions—in diplomatic parlance, an indication of differences of opinion.

The official-level talks, a followup to a high-level regional conference on Cambodia in Bogor, Indonesia, last July and scheduled to last three days, are to resume Tuesday morning, the sources said.

They held out little hope that the Khmer Rouge, militarily the strongest of the three Cambodian resistance factions, would join the talks at this stage.

But several participants said the talks would go ahead, with or without the Khmer Rouge.

Earlier, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas of host Indonesia had suggested the Khmer Rouge might turn up before the end of the three-day meeting, or perhaps join again at a subsequent round.

There was no official explanation of the absence of the Khmer Rouge, who had attended the Bogor meeting.

But observers linked it to increasing criticism internationally of their rule in Phnom Penh in the late 1970s when they were held responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Cambodians.

The six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) held an informal meeting in the afternoon, while the three Cambodian factions attending separated to "study their positions," conference sources said.

Cambodian sources said that "some concrete proposals" had been submitted but they gave no details.

The three factions—representing the Hanoi-backed government in Phnom Penh and resistance groups loyal to

Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former premier Son Sann—were seen to linger together over lunch.

The atmosphere among the factions, who have waged war against each other for a decade, was described by participants as cordial.

The Khmer factions met for the first time face-to-face in Bogor, which was also the first time that the withdrawal

of Vietnamese troops was linked to preventing a return to power of the Khmer Rouge.

ASEAN—grouping Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand—has promoted the talks as a means of ensuring political and economic stability.

North Korea

CPRF Clarifies Stand on Summit Talks

SK1510045088 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0440 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland in its statement on October 14 took note of the fact that the South Korean leading authority on October 4 manifested his approach to the reunification of the country and dialogue, though in a limited scope, by way of reaction to our momentous reunification proposal and expressed his will to come to Pyongyang for "summit talks".

Saying that this deserves welcome, the statement notes:

What is essential in preparing top-level talks, however, is to bring conditions to maturity and create a favorable climate so that the success of the talks can be unequivocally guaranteed.

Under the stringent anti-communist system of South Korea the South Korean leading authority himself who is willing to come to Pyongyang to discuss the reunification question would be charged by law and would never get off scotfree. Under this situation, he has no justification to come to the North and, even if he comes, he would hardly get a face to meet anyone.

What is more important than words and desire is to correctly understand how things stand.

In order to open top-level talks assuming the important task to act the midwife for peace and peaceful reunification of the country, its conditions and climate must be brought to maturity before words and desire.

Its best way, we think, is to relax the acute political confrontation and military tensions created in the North and the South.

Proceeding from this stand, we hold it necessary to have talks between responsible political and military power holders of the North and the South.

An early convocation of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting will also be an important occasion in helping arrange North-South top-level talks.

For the North-South top-level talks so ardently desired by the whole nation, it is urgent to remove the legal and institutional factors that undermine the atmosphere of national reconciliation and trust.

From this point of view, we hold that the South Korean authorities must, above all, abolish the "National Security Law" ("Anti-Communist Law") which is incompatible with the North-South dialogue.

It is our belief that if all these questions essential for detente, reconciliation and unity are resolved, the distrust pent up between the North and the South for scores of years will be dispelled and top-level talks will open smoothly in a good atmosphere.

The prospect of top-level talks depends on how the South Korean authorities approach it.

CPRF Issues Statement

SK1510024988 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2100 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Statement issued by the CPRF on 14 October—read by announcer]

[Text] Today, the spirit of the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland is growing unprecedentedly higher in the North and the South of our country.

The tenor of new developments in the international situation toward detente and peace is creating a favorable condition for our cause of peaceful reunification.

During this crucial period when our nation's independent efforts for reunification are more urgently demanded than ever before, the respected leader President Kim Il-song again put forth the proposal for founding a democratic confederal republic of Koryo based on the three great principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity on national reunification and solemnly declared all questions of principle that arise in solving problems of reunifying the country—including highest-level North-South talks—at the report meeting to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

This is a historic declaration of reunification and national salvation that helps to ease the strained situation of the country and open a new phase for peaceful reunification and that gives all fellow countrymen new hope for the prospect of national reunification.

As an expression of reaction to our epochal proposal for reunification, the South Korean person in authority raised the question of summit talks on 4 October, expressing his attitude, though within limited boundaries, toward reunification of the country and dialogue.

Paying attention to the fact that the South Korean person in authority expressed his opinion to come to Pyongyang for summit talks, we consider it something worthy of welcome.

Highest-level talks are supreme authoritative political talks that assume a most important mission among North-South dialogues.

At the North-South political talks in 1972, we early proposed highest-level talks and consistently gave special significance to them. In recent years, as well, we have repeatedly expressed our intention of developing North-South dialogue into highest-level talks.

Once the highest-level talks are held, they must certainly bring about fine fruition and give the fellow countrymen hope for reunification. Toward this end, the question of the North and the South adopting a declaration of nonaggression without anyone's binding or warrant, and the question of their founding the confederal government of a reunified state under conditions in which the two systems in the North and the South are left intact, and their forming something like a peace council to realize it should be, above all, discussed and solved at the talks.

If talks are blindly held without any guarantee of being able to solve these questions and ruptured without success, the consequences to arise from this and the disappointment to the fellow countrymen would be, indeed, irretrievable.

An urgent problem that arises in arranging highest-level talks is to ripen conditions for surely guaranteeing success in the talks and to create a favorable atmosphere. Not an atmosphere of reconciliation, trust, and unity, but an atmosphere of acute confrontation, mistrust, and hostility dreadfully prevails in the North and the South.

How can a trustworthy dialogue be held amid a situation in which massive armed forces, including nuclear weapons, have been massed on a large scale in South Korea and around it and in which large-scale military exercises against the other side of dialogue have been constantly conducted? How can the problem of reunification connected with the fate of the nation be solved while the danger of nuclear war, which will annihilate the nation and reduce the land to ashes, is being incurred?

Also, the horrendous atmosphere inside South Korea is very unbecoming for holding highest-level talks. Anticommunism, viewing us in a hostile way, is a state policy in South Korea, and everyone who wants reunification is victimized by the anticommunist policy. At this very moment, those who long for and praise the northern half of the Republic are being arrested and imprisoned. While lip service is paid to allowing information on the reality in the North, youths, students, professors, journalists, and religious figures who talk about, study, and write on the North are wanted, judged, and harshly punished.

Furthermore, what cannot be understood is that such acts removed from common sense as ruthlessly punishing those patriotic forerunners who study the chuche idea of respected President Kim Il-song, read books concerning Kimilsongism, and introduce them on charges of violating the anticommunist National Security Law is unhesitatingly perpetrated while the summit talks are being talked about.

As a matter of fact, the South Korean person in authority himself, who says that he will come to Pyongyang to discuss the problem of reunification, is subject to a (?charge) and cannot be safe under this severe anticommunist system of South Korea. Amid such a state, coming to the North cannot find a just cause, and even if he does come to the North, it would be difficult to save his face when meeting someone.

Correctly looking at realities is more important than words or desire. To hold highest-level talks that are assigned the grave task of (?giving birth to) peace and peaceful reunification in the country, conditions and an atmosphere for them should be first ripened before words or desire. To ripen conditions and create the atmosphere needed to hold North-South highest-level talks, we consider it best to ease the state of acute political confrontation and military tension between the North and the South.

Proceeding from this stand, we assert that it is necessary to hold talks between responsible persons with substantial political and military power in the North and the South. Such immediate political and military problems as stopping mutual slander and defamation, promoting national ties by realizing multifaceted collaboration and exchanges between the North and the South, discontinuing the arms race, changing the DMZ into a peace zone, and stopping large-scale military exercises, should be discussed and solved at high-level North-South political and military talks.

Convening a North-South joint parliamentary meeting at an early date is also an important occasion that will help to arrange North-South highest-level talks. We demand that the ongoing meeting between lawmakers of the two sides in Panmunjom be quickly concluded and the problem of nonaggression be solved by holding a North-South joint parliamentary meeting, thus opening a breakthrough for easing tension.

For North-South highest-level talks on which the entire nation pins expectations, it is urgent to remove factors in the law and the system that undermine the atmosphere of national reconciliation and trust. From this point of view, we assert that the South Korean persons in authority must, first of all, abolish the National Security Law and the Anticommunist Law, which cannot be compatible with North-South dialogue.

The National Security Law and the Anticommunist Law, which constitute the basis for the so-called law in South Korea, define our northern half of the Republic as an antistate organization and all residents in the northern half as forming the antistate organization and specify that even transactions of materials, to say nothing of contact and communication between the North and the South, shall be objects of harsh punishment. With this legal system left intact, what significance does the so-called 7 July declaration bear? Even though its follow-up measures are taken a hundred times, how can they be realized?

We believe that only under conditions in which the National Security Law and the Anticomunist Law, which view the other side of dialogue as hostile, are abolished can North-South cooperation, exchanges, and reunification dialogue to discuss the future of the nation be realized. The South Korean persons in authority should not escape from expressing their clear attitude toward the National Security Law and the Anticomunist Law against the nation.

We are convinced that if these urgent problems for detente, reconciliation, and unity are solved, sentiments of mistrust, which have piled up between the North and the South for scores of years, will be removed, and highest-level talks will be smoothly held amid a good atmosphere. The prospect for highest-level talks depends on the attitude of the South Korean persons in authority.

If the South Korean persons in authority are genuinely interested in highest-level talks, they should accept our sincere and disinterested proposal to ease the current state of political and military confrontation between the North and the South and remove the factors of antagonism and mistrust inside the nation.

The attitude toward our realistic proposal is precisely a good test that verifies the sincerity of the South Korean persons in authority toward North-South dialogue and the peaceful reunification of the country and their will for reunification. Korea is one and the Korean nation is also one. Even though the path ahead of reunification is rugged, we will certainly accomplish the historic cause of national reunification with the independent forces of the nation.

'Text' of Statement

SK1510043088 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0413 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland published a statement on October 14 clarifying our principled stand toward the proposal of "summit talks" which the South Korean leading authority made on October 4 by way of reaction to our reunification proposal, expressing his approach to the reunification of the country and dialogue, though in a limited scope.

Follows the full text of the statement:

Statement of the Committee for the Peaceful

Reunification of the Fatherland

The sentiments for the nation's independent and peaceful reunification are rising to a high tide hitherto unparalleled in the North and the South of our country.

The new trend of development of the international situation toward detente and peace, too, is creating a favorable condition for our cause of peaceful reunification.

At this crucial moment when the efforts for reunification on the part of our nation itself are of paramount urgency, the respected leader President Kim Il-sung reiterated at the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea the proposal for the founding of the democratic confederal republic of Koryo based on the three principles of national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—and solemnly elaborated on the questions of principle arising in the solution of the nation's reunification question including North-South top level talks.

This is a historical declaration to save the nation through reunification, which is intended to ease the tensions in the country, open a new phase of peaceful reunification and inspire the entire fellow countrymen with new hopes for the prospect of national reunification.

By way of reaction to this momentous reunification proposal of ours, the South Korean leading authority brought forward the question of "summit talks" on October 4, manifesting, though in a limited scope, his approach to the reunification of the country and dialogue.

Taking note of the fact that the South Korean leading authority expressed his will to come to Pyongyang for "summit talks," we consider this deserves welcome.

Top-level talks is political talks of highest authority assuming weightiest mission among the dialogues between the North and the South.

At the North-South political talks as far back as in 1972 we initiated top-level talks and have consistently attached special significance to it and, in recent years, expressed time and again our willingness to develop North-South dialogue to top-level talks.

Top-level talks, if once it opens, must not fail to bear fine fruits and bring the dawn of reunification to the fellow countrymen.

To this end, the top-level talks must discuss and resolve, first of all, the questions of adopting a declaration on non-aggression between the North and the South free from restrictions or guarantee by anyone and establishing a confederal government of a unified state on condition that the two systems of North and South are left as they are or founding such body as a peaceful reunification committee to realize it.

If talks were called blindly, without assurances of the settlement of these questions, and were brought to a rupture without success, the consequences to be entailed and the disappointment of the fellow countrymen would be really irreparable.

What is essential in preparing top-level talks is to bring to maturity conditions and create a favorable climate so that the success of the talks can be unequivocally guaranteed.

Now a gruesome climate of acute confrontation, distrust and hostility, not a climate of reconciliation, trust and unity, is prevailing between the North and South.

How can a dialogue based on confidence be held when huge armed forces including nuclear weapons are massed in and around South Korea and large-scale military manoeuvres against the dialogue partner are constantly staged and how can the reunification question on which the destiny of the nation is staked be resolved when the danger of a nuclear war is being fomented to destroy the nation and reduce the land to ruins?

The grim atmosphere within South Korea is too unfitting to the convocation of top-level talks.

In South Korea, anti-communism against us is made the "state policy" and all people who desire reunification fall victims to the anti-communist policy.

At this very moment, people who long for and praise the northern half of Korea are arrested and imprisoned in South Korea.

They say they will acquaint people with the reality of the North. But students, professors, pressmen and church people who talk about the North, study it and write articles about it are sought by police, tried and harshly punished.

Still more incomprehensible is the fact that while talking about "summit talks," they commit without hesitation such acts against common sense as mercilessly penalizing patriotic pioneers who study the chuche idea of respected President Kim Il-sung, avidly read books of Kimilsongism and introduce them by invoking the anti-communist "National Security Law".

Under this stringent anti-communist system of South Korea the South Korean leading authority himself who is willing to come to Pyongyang to discuss the reunification question would be charged by law and would never get off scotfree. Under this situation, he has no justification to come to the North and, even if he comes, he would hardly get a face to meet anyone.

What is more important than words and desire is to correctly understand how things stand.

In order to open top-level talks assuming the important task to act the midwife for peace and peaceful reunification of the country, its conditions and climate must be brought to maturity before words and desire.

Its best way, we think, is to relax the acute political confrontation and military tensions created in the North and the South.

Proceeding from this stand, we hold it necessary to have talks between responsible political and military power holders of the North and the South.

The North-South high-level political and military talks should discuss and resolve outstanding political and military questions such as ceasing to hurl abuses at each other and realizing multifaceted collaboration and exchange between the North and the South to promote national bonds, halting arms race, turning the demilitarized zone into a peace zone and terminating large-scale military exercises.

An early convocation of a North-South joint parliamentary meeting will also be an important occasion in helping arrange North-South top-level talks.

We are of the opinion that the ongoing Panmunjom meeting of parliamentarians of both sides should be concluded at an early date and a North-South joint parliamentary meeting be opened to resolve the question on non-aggression and thus a breakthrough be made for the relaxation of tensions.

For the North-South top-level talks so ardently desired by the whole nation, it is urgent to remove the legal and institutional factors that undermine the atmosphere of national reconciliation and trust.

From this point of view, we hold that the South Korean authorities must, above all, abolish the "National Security Law" ("Anti-Communist Law") which is incompatible with the North-South dialogue.

The "National Security Law" ("Anti-Communist Law") which makes the root of "laws" in South Korea defines the northern half of our republic as an "anti-state group" and the entire population in the northern half as "component entity of an anti-state organization," and stipulates even dealings in goods, to say nothing of contacts and exchange of views, between the North and the South as targets of severe punishment.

What is the use of the so-called "July 7 declaration" with such legal system left intact and, even if its "follow-up measures" are taken a hundred times, how could they be carried into practice!

We consider that North-South cooperation and exchange and the dialogue for reunification concerning the future of the nation could be realized only when the "National Security Law" ("Anti-Communist Law"), which is hostile to the dialogue, is repealed.

The South Korean authorities must not avoid expressing in explicit terms their attitude toward the anti-national "National Security Law" ("Anti-Communist Law").

It is our belief that if all these questions essential for detente, reconciliation and unity are resolved, the distrust sent up between the North and the South for scores of years will be dispelled and top-level talks will open smoothly in a good atmosphere.

The prospect of top-level talks depends on how the South Korean authorities approach it.

If they are truly interested in top-level talks, they should accept our sincere and disinterested proposal to ease the present political and military confrontation between the North and South and eliminate the factors of antagonism and distrust within the nation.

The approach to this realistic proposal of ours will immediately be a good test of the sincerity and will of the South Korean authorities for North-South dialogue and peaceful reunification of the country.

Korea is one and so is the Korean nation.

Though a rugged path lies ahead of reunification, we will accomplish the historical cause of national reunification without fail by the internal forces of our nation.

October 14, 1988

Pyongyang

Commentary Reviews Statement

SK1610070788 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1150 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Yong-nam:
"Conditions and Atmosphere Must Mature First"]

[Text] As has been reported, on 14 October, the CPRF released a statement in which it expressed our principled stand on highest-level North-South talks. The statement stressed that if highest-level North-South talks are to be held, conditions must mature and that a good atmosphere must be promoted to guarantee success in the talks. To this end the statement presented a series of urgent problems needing measures to solve them: High-level North-South political and military talks should be held; a North-South joint parliamentary meeting should be convened at an early date; and the National Security Law, which considers the opposing side in the dialogue as an enemy, should be abolished. As a reasonable and realistic proposal for arranging highest-level North-South talks and resolving problems, this is a graphic manifestation of our sincere attitude in dialogue.

As is known, highest-level North-South talks are an issue that we advanced in 1972, and since then we have continuously attached particular significance to the issue. In recent years, we have also repeatedly expressed our willingness to develop North-South dialogue into highest-level talks. In particular, at a report meeting to mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-sung solemnly mentioned highest-level North-South talks and posed other principled questions in resolving the question of reunifying the country.

By way of response to this epochal proposal for reunification, in his 4 October so-called speech on state affairs, the person in authority in South Korea expressed his willingness to come to Pyongyang for summit talks. This in itself can be considered something that deserves welcome. However, blindly holding talks does not lead to resolving questions.

Because highest-level North-South talks are political talks of the highest authority assuming the weightiest mission among the dialogues between the North and South, once they open, they must not fail to bear fine fruits. To this end, highest-level talks must discuss and resolve, first of all, the questions of adopting a declaration on nonaggression between the North and South free from restrictions or guarantees by anyone and establishing a confederal government of a unified state on condition that the two systems of the North and South are left as they are or founding a body such as a peaceful reunification committee to realize this.

Nevertheless, in reality, is there any guarantee for resolving these issues after convening highest-level talks? There is not. Whether the person in authority in South Korea has the authority to independently discuss and resolve these fundamental issues is in question. What is more important is that the atmosphere of acute confrontation, mistrust, and hostility between the North and the South and a gruesome atmosphere inside South Korea are very unbecoming for holding highest-level talks. How can sincere dialogue be held under circumstances in which South Korea has been turned into the foreign forces' military base for aggression and a nuclear forward base, in which acute military confrontation is left intact, and in which confrontational commotions opposing the other side in dialogue are strengthened? And how can the reunification issue be realized once dialogue is held? Moreover, under circumstances where anticommunism is the state policy, thus making us as an enemy in their estimation, and they thereby mercilessly suppress those who demand reunification and who talk about and propagandize the North as it is, they have no justification or pretense for coming North.

We demand that to hold highest-level North-South talks, the conditions and the atmosphere for these talks must mature first before anything is said or any desire is expressed. By anyone's reckoning this is very just. If high-level North-South political and military talks are held as we proposed and if such outstanding political and military questions as ceasing to hurl abuse at each other and realizing multifaceted collaboration and exchange between the North and South to promote national bonds, halting the arms race, turning the Demilitarized Zone into a zone of peace, and terminating large-scale military exercises are discussed and resolved in these talks, the conditions and the atmosphere necessary for holding highest-level talks could mature. And, immediately holding a North-South joint parliamentary meeting and resolving the nonaggression issue therein will also be beneficial to arranging highest-level talks. In addition,

for highest-level North-South talks, the antinational National Security Law, which considers the opposing side in the dialogue as an enemy, must be abolished.

If the persons in authority in South Korea are sincerely interested in highest-level talks, they must not turn a blind eye to our sincere and disinterested proposal for easing prevailing political and military confrontation between the North and South and removing factors that cause enmity and mistrust within the nation. The future of highest-level talks wholly depends upon the persons in authority in South Korea.

Daily Views 'False Propaganda' of South
SK1610091588 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0900 GMT 16 Oct 88

[“Crafty False Propaganda To Save Unstable Political Situation”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on the crafty manoeuvres of the South Korean authorities under the mask of “democratisation” and “reunification” in their bid to break the daily growing fighting spirit of the people.

The news analyst says:

The South Korean rulers these days never let a chance pass by without twanging the harp of “reconciliation” and “improvement of relations” between North and South, pretending to be interested in North-South dialogue and reunification. And they say they will examine the question of “summit talks.”

If they really have the intention to reunify the country, they should, before uttering other words, reaffirm the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, the immutable principles of the solution of the reunification question, and speak of the withdrawal of the U.S. forces, the chief obstacle to reunification, from South Korea, and the removal of military confrontation and relaxation of tensions, the basic preconditions to reunification. But, they keep mum about this as they did in the “July 7 declaration.”

As the committee for the peaceful reunification of the fatherland rightly noted in its statement, as far as the North-South top-level talks is concerned, it is us who initiated it long ago, and clear is our stand toward it.

What is essential in arranging top-level talks is to bring conditions to maturity and create a climate for a success of the talks. To this end, the acute political confrontation and military tensions between the North and the South must be eased and the legal and institutional factors impairing the atmosphere of national reconciliation and trust be quickly eliminated in South Korea.

The prospect of the top-level talks depends on how the South Korean authorities approach it.

While saying they will “improve” the North-South relations, the South Korean authorities resort to impudent acts slinging mud at our system.

If they really intend to improve the North-South relations, they must, first of all, repeal the notorious ‘National Security Law’ and other fascist laws and destroy repressive tools in South Korea, abandon their anti-communist confrontation policy and open the door of the closed South Korean society.

The South Korean rulers do not have the intention to reunify the country, but seek only to freeze division. Suffice it to recall that they are drivelling about the promotion of the divisive “northern policy” while talking about “reunification.”

It is nobody’s secret that the “northern policy” peddled by the South Korean rulers under the slogan of “improvement of relations with the communist bloc” is an offspring of their criminal scheme to drive the vehicle of “two Koreas” on the tracks of “cross contact” and “cross recognition.”

The persistent attempt of No Tae-u to disguise himself as “a democrat” is unthinkable apart from the unstable political situation of South Korea.

No Tae-u says he will become “the president who made democracy take root” in South Korea. But, he insults the patriotic forces standing for independence, democracy and reunification as “illegal terrorist group” seeking “the overthrow of the system” and threaten that he would “deal with it by law.”

Under the pressure of the people and the opposition forces, the South Korean rulers vociferate about the “liquidation of the past.” But they do not have the least intention to do so. This is evidenced by the fact that they have dumped on the lap of the “National Assembly” the investigation into the corruption scandals of “the Fifth Republic” and are protecting the traitor Chon Tu-hwan, saying they would refrain from “political reprisals.”

The anti-U.S. and anti-dictatorship sentiments and the trend toward reunification are rising to a new tide among the South Korean people after the Olympics. The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group are scared out of their wits in face of the undaunted spirit of the South Korean people who are fighting daringly, crying for “expulsion of U.S. imperialism,” “overthrow of dictatorship” and “reunification of the country,” in the teeth of repression by the Army and police more than one million strong.

The South Korean authorities are professing themselves capable of doing something demanded by the people, stringing out hypocritical phrasology about “reunification” and “democratisation.” This, however, is part of their appeasement and deception to get rid of such crisis of their power.

The South Korean people will no more be deceived by the crafty coaxing of the authorities.

South Trade Proposal Seen as 'Splittist Move'

*SK1710062188 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0544 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[“Proposal for Opening” Aimed at Permanent Division”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 17 (KCNA)—The South Korean rulers recently let “a vice prime minister and concurrently minister of Economic Planning Board” talk about six-point “proposal for economic opening to the North” based on the provisions on exchange between the North and the South which were laid down in the socalled “July 7 declaration”, the keynote of which is that they would press ahead with resumption of North-South economic talks and substantial economic exchange, would not levy taxes on commodities exchanged between the North and the South and would approve contacts with officials of the North in a third country for exchange of commodities and the entry of our side’s vessels into South Korean ports.

NODONG SINMUN today, commenting on this, says that this is nothing but a splittist move aimed at deceiving public opinion at home and abroad and put a brake in the wheels of reunification, dragging on time.

The author of the commentary says:

If the North-South relations are to be improved, it is necessary to renounce the anti-communist policy and abrogate such evil laws as the “National Security Law” in South Korea.

It is not the stand of those who want to see the settlement of the problems to talk about the secondary problems such as exchange and trade, turning their face away from such essential matters as political and military problems for providing a fundamental prerequisite to reunification.

If the South side truly has a will to realize reunification and is interested in exchange and trade conducive to it, it should not lay a stumbling-block in the way of dialogue by bringing forward such a separate issue as “economic opening to the North”.

Anniversary of Relations With USSR Marked

*SK1310104988 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1038 GMT 13 Oct 88*

[Text] Pyongyang October 13 (KCNA)—A meeting was held here Wednesday to mark the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Attending there were Yi Chong-yol, minister of public health and chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society, and officials concerned and working people in the city.

Present on invitation were Soviet Ambassador to Korea Gennadiy Bartoshevich and embassy officials.

Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Yi In-kyu spoke first at the meeting.

He stressed:

The Soviet Union was the first to recognize the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea as the only legitimate state on the Korean peninsula right after the foundation of the DPRK and establish diplomatic relations with it 40 years ago. It was an important occasion in developing the friendly relations between the peoples of the two countries.

Referring to the fact that today the Soviet people under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union led by Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev are actively striving to carry out the tasks to accelerate the socio-economic development in the Soviet Union and step up the restructuring process which were adopted at the 27th congress of the party and confirmed at its 19th all-union conference, he warmly hailed the achievements made by the fraternal Soviet people.

Pointing to the various constructive proposals put forward by the Soviet party and government for world peace and security and to their tireless efforts for their implementation, he highly appreciated the proposals for the reduction of nuclear and conventional weapons advanced by the Soviet side at the Soviet-U.S. talks.

Ambassador Gennadiy Bartoshevich spoke next.

Referring to the favourable development of the Soviet-Korean relations in all fields today, he stressed that the meetings and talks between the leaders of the two countries during the visits to the USSR by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, in 1984 and 1986 had laid a firm foundation for expanding joint efforts in the struggle to bring bilateral relations overall on to a qualitatively high level, further develop them in all fields and convert Asia into a continent of peace and security.

The Soviet Union actively supports the DPRK’s efforts to arrange a successful North-South dialogue and reunify the country on a peaceful and democratic basis, he said, adding: To withdraw the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea is the most important condition for eliminating the root cause of the tensions on the Korean peninsula.

Noting that big achievements are being registered by the Korean people in all sections, he stressed: All these achievements are the fruition of the energetic and devoted efforts made by the Korean people under the tested leadership of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea led by Comrade Kim Il-song.

The Soviet party and government will make all their efforts to strengthen and enrich the friendship and multilateral cooperation between the Soviet Union and Korea for the peoples of the two countries, socialism of the world and peace and progress.

WPK Delegation Departs for Soviet U.S.S.R.
*SK1610082688 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0824 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Choe Ik-kyu, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, left Pyongyang by air on October 15 for the Soviet Union.

It was seen off at the airport by Kil Su-am, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and Boris Morozov, minister-councillor of the Soviet Embassy in Pyongyang.

Choe Tae-pok Meets CPC Delegations
*SK1510051888 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0512 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] Pyongyang October 15 (KCNA)—Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, met and had a friendly talk on October 14 respectively with the delegation of the party school of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China headed by Gao Di, member of the CPC Central Committee and vice-president of the school and the friendship visiting group of the Communist Party of China headed by Liu Zhengwei, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and deputy secretary of the Guizhou Provincial Party Committee.

China Delegations Arrive in Pyongyang
*SK1710070988 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0543 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] Pyongyang October 17 (KCNA)—A Chinese public health delegation headed by Gu Yingqi, vice-minister of public health of China, and a delegation of the Chinese Scientific and Technical Association headed by its Vice-Chairman Gao Zhenning arrived in Pyongyang Sunday by air.

Envoy to Hungary Reportedly Recalled in Protest
*OW1510042988 Tokyo KYODO in English
0346 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 15 KYODO—North Korea summoned Kim Pyong-il, the second son of the nation's president and its ambassador to Hungary, possibly in protest against Hungary's recent decision to establish bilateral representative offices with South Korea, Japanese Foreign Ministry sources said Saturday.

The sources said an unconfirmed information said that members of the pro-Pyongyang General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) spotted Kim aboard a flight bound from Moscow to Pyongyang late last month.

Kim, 34, is a son by President Kim Il-song's present wife, Kim Song-ae, and is a half-brother to Kim Jong-il, 46, the prospective successor to President Kim, according to Ministry sources.

Kim was appointed ambassador to Hungary on August 14 this year. He was called back to Pyongyang shortly after the Government of Hungary and South Korea announced the establishment of representative offices on September 13, the sources said.

Hwang Chang-yop Holds Talks in Sofia
*SK1610080588 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0804 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[Text] Pyongyang October 16 (KCNA)—Talks were held in Sofia on October 13 between the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by secretary of the WPK Central Committee Hwang Chang-yop and the delegation of the Bulgarian Communist Party headed by International Secretary of the BCP Central Committee Dimitur Stanishev.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

South Korea

CPRF Statement on Talks Called 'Affirmative'
*SK1510090088 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN
in Korean 15 Oct 88 p 1*

[Text] On 15 October, the government, deciding to make, for the moment, an affirmative estimation of the statement released by North Korea's Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] concerning talks between the persons in highest authorities in the North and South, is reported to be planning the discussion of measures in meetings of working-level officials concerned.

In this connection, a government official said: In view of the fact that North Korea has mentioned talks between the persons in highest authority in detail and recognized the significance of the talks in this statement, which

lacked any derogatory expression about our side, and used the word "welcome," we make an affirmative estimation of it for the moment.

This government authority figure added: However, it must be borne in mind that North Korea made the abolition of the National Security Law and Anticommunist Law and the settlement of military issues, issues that North Korea has insisted on in the past, a precondition.

Customs Office at Panmunjom Considered

*SK1510015888 Seoul YONHAP in English
0149 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—South Korea is considering establishing a customs office in the truce village of Panmunjom to prepare for possible direct trade on land with North Korea, a government source said Saturday.

The source said concerned ministries, including those economic-related and the Justice Ministry, have held consultations on whether to set up a customs house at Panmunjom in the Demilitarized Zone dividing South and North Korea, since the government announced a seven-point inter-Korean trade measure on Oct. 8.

The government, in the new inter-Korean trade measure, announced that South Korean private companies will be allowed to begin trade with the North, while traders from the two Koreas will be allowed to visit each other's country.

Although imports from the North will be free of tariffs under the trade measure, there is a need for entry procedures when commodities pass to and from South and North Korea, the source said.

He also said that when foodstuffs and animals pass between the two Koreas, quarantine procedures should be established involving officials from the Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries Ministry, as well as the Health and Social Affairs Ministry.

In addition, immigration control officials from the Justice Ministry will also be dispatched to the office, as such officials are stationed at all other customs houses in the nation, according to the source.

In line with the government announcement that it will regard trade with North Korea as domestic commerce, the government is considering a name other than customs house for the possible office in Panmunjom.

Swedish Minister Barred From Crossing DMZ

*SK1710030288 Seoul YONHAP in English
0256 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 17 (YONHAP)—Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson's attempt to visit North Korea by way of the truce village of Panmunjom has been rejected by North Korea, according to the Swedish Embassy Monday.

"Andersson had asked for North Korea to allow him to arrive in Pyongyang via the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) from Seoul. Pyongyang, however, replied Sunday that he is most welcome to visit but not through the DMZ," an embassy official said.

"Our minister, therefore, will not be able to visit Pyongyang this time and will fly to Bangkok Tuesday to meet with the Thai foreign minister," the official said, adding, "his schedule to visit the North will be decided later."

The Swedish minister, who arrived in Seoul Thursday to attend the opening ceremony of the Eighth Seoul Paralympics, notified both Koreas of his idea to visit North Korea via Panmunjom. South Korea did not oppose the plan.

Sweden has diplomatic ties with both South and North Korea.

4 Arrested for Attack on U.S. Cultural Center

*SK1510020188 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
15 Oct 88 p 3*

[Text] Kwangju—About 150 collegians shouting anti-American slogans attacked the U.S. Cultural Center here, hurling firebombs, rocks and wielding steel pipes.

A police bus guarding the U.S. information service building and a private sedan were burnt in the attack at around 2 p.m. And three windows and eaves of the building were shattered.

Police led away four students at the site and are questioning them.

The students, mostly from Chonnam National and Chosun Universities abruptly ran forth from an intersection some 200 meters away from the cultural center, police said.

The police bus parked nearby was completely burned down by the hail of Molotov cocktails thrown by the students.

Then, they approached the cultural center and showered firebombs at the center for five minutes. The attack set ablaze a private sedan owned by its employee and shattered 25 boxes of beverages at the neighboring supermarket.

Fleeing in the direction of Chosun University, they hurled firebombs at the Saku-dogn police box, leaving two windows broken.

According to U.S. officials, seven assailants climbed up to the center's roof from inns nearby while police outside fought back protesters.

The students on the roof carried a placard that read "Repeal the armistice agreement, conclude a peace treaty." They also scattered printed matters reading "Yankees go home!"

Four students arrested on the scene are Mun Sang-hwa of Chonnam National University, Yi Chan-u of Chosun University, Yi Chu-hwa and Han Chae-ik also from Chosun University.

President No Leaves for New York, Washington
*SK1710053288 Seoul YONHAP in English
0440 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 17 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u said Monday he will unveil a new formula for reunification of the Korean peninsula, peace initiatives for Northeast Asia and policies to improve relations with communist countries in his speech at the United Nations.

"Now we have changed our status in international society by hosting the Olympics more successfully than any other advanced hosts of the event," said No in a press conference prior to his departure for New York.

No, accompanied by a six-member official entourage, including Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su and National Unification Minister Yi Hong-ku, is scheduled to deliver a speech at the United Nations General Assembly Tuesday marking the first such address by a South Korean head of state.

His five-night and six-day stay in the United States also includes talks in Washington, D.C., with U.S. President Ronald Reagan at the White House on Thursday.

Praising the United States for extending "invisible" cooperation for the success of the Seoul Olympics, no said he will further consolidate the existing friendly ties with the United States through his meeting with Reagan.

The Korean leader also said Reagan was more active than any other U.S. president in strengthening Korea-U.S. relations over the past eight years.

In New York, No is scheduled to host a reception for all representatives to the United Nations and others attending the General Assembly after a meeting with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

No will have stopovers in Los Angeles and Hawaii on his way back home.

No To Present Peace Plan at UN
*SK1510005588 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
15 Oct 88 p 2*

[Text] Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su said yesterday that President No Tae-u will present a comprehensive proposal to mitigate tensions and settle peace on the Korean peninsula in his address to the United Nations General Assembly on Oct. 18.

Choe revealed this while speaking at a breakfast meeting with the participants in a top management course of the Graduate Business School of Seoul National University at the Hyatt Hotel.

The foreign minister said, "It is very significant that the head of state of Korea will put forth our position in person at the U.N. general session."

Choe also revealed that Korea had contact at various levels with 25 countries with which it has no formal diplomatic relationships during the period of the Seoul Olympics.

"The Seoul Olympics provided us with a turning point for our foreign policy toward socialist countries," he said.

Analyzing that China seeks improvement of ties with Korea for economical reasons, while the Soviet Union does so for political motivations, Choe said, "Historically and geographically, the ties between us and China is more important than those with the Soviets, but we will develop relationships on balance with the two nations."

He predicted that relations in politics as well as in economy with Eastern European countries, including Hungary, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria are expected to develop very rapidly.

Choe stressed that while pursuing improvement of ties with socialist countries, the government will further strengthen its relations with traditional allies in economic and security fields.

No Plans for U.S. Visit
*SK1510093788 Seoul YONHAP in English
0928 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u will leave Seoul Monday for a six-day visit to the United States which will be highlighted by his speech at the plenary session of the 43rd General Assembly of the United Nations. No will become the first ever Korean President to speak on the forum of the U.N. General Assembly.

In his speech, slated to be presented at 11 a.m. Friday [as received] (American Eastern Standard Time), the South Korean chief executive will express gratitude to the governments and peoples of all world countries for their contributions to the successful staging of the Seoul Olympics.

No will also explain about his government's determination to fulfill democratization in South Korea and to seek harmony and reconciliation with North Korea with a view to lessening tension in the Korean peninsula. He will make public detailed plans to be activated for the realization of his proposal for inter-Korea summits, his press aides said.

No will visit the White House Sunday to meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. During the summit, the two leaders are expected to discuss major pending issues between the two countries and world affairs of common concern.

No will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su and National Unification Board Minister Yi Hong-ku. He will hand out a statement on his visit to the United Nations in a press conference shortly before his departure.

Annual Economic Talks With U.S. Set
*SK1610011188 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 16 Oct 88 p 2*

[Text] The seventh annual Korea-U.S. economic consultation will be held in Seoul Oct. 26-27, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced yesterday.

Vice Foreign Minister Shin Tong-won will lead the Korean delegation, which will comprise officials of the Economic Planning Board and other ministries.

The U.S. delegation will be made up of 16 officials of the State, U.S. Trade Representative, Commerce, Agriculture and Treasury departments. It will be headed by Undersecretary of State Allen Wallis.

During the annual meeting, the two nations are to discuss bilateral economic issues, including those related to banking and finance, bilateral investment relations, agriculture, telecommunications, maritime and energy.

The two sides are also to exchange views on the direction of changes in the economic structures of the two countries, developments in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and the new U.S. trade act, according to the ministry.

Korea and the United States will also discuss cooperation for joint projects in third countries, including China and the Soviet Union, it said.

Before the meeting, a working-level trade subgroup will meet in Seoul Oct. 24-25 to discuss trade issues—the import of agricultural products and protection of intellectual property rights—the ministry said.

Korea and the United States have held the economic consultations annually since 1981 under an agreement between the heads of state of the two countries.

Meeting With U.S. Business Council Held

*SK1610005588 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
16 Oct 88 p 6*

[Text] The newly inaugurated Korea-U.S. Business Council is meaningful in that business circles in the two countries can get together to discuss ways of settling the ever-growing trade disputes on their own accord.

The first meeting of the council which was held in Seoul on Thursday and Friday was attended by 27 leading Korean business figures and 41 U.S. business delegates, testifying to its influential role in the days ahead.

Among the Korean participants were Nam Tok-u, chairman of the Korea Foreign Trade Association, Ku Cha-kyong, chairman of the Federation of Korean Industries, Kim Sang-ha, chairman of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industries and Chong Se-yung, chairman of the Hyundai group.

On the other hand, the U.S. side was led by David R. Roderick, chairman of USX and many representatives of multi-national businesses such as Ford Motor and General Dynamics.

It was generally expected that the inaugural meeting of the council would only serve as an occasion to confirm friendly relations between Korean and U.S. Business circles.

However, the two sides sincerely exchanged opinions on solving trade friction between the two countries even though it looked like they would clash with each other during consultations.

In particular, the U.S. side rubbed the nerve of the Korean delegation on the first day of the meeting as it warned that the United States would take retaliatory measures against Korea in accordance with the strong protectionist omnibus trade bill unless the Korean government corrects trade imbalance which is in disfavor of the United States.

Regardless of its remark, both government and business circles are agonizing over the recent enactment of the omnibus U.S. trade bill because the bill would seriously damage exports to the United States with the mobilization of the so-called Super Section 301.

Super Section 301 empowers the U.S. Trade Representative to curb imports of any specific item or all products from any country which does not take appropriate measures to rectify its trade surplus with the United States. In the past, such power was only delegated to the U.S. president. Even though the two sides almost clashed on the first day of the conference, they peacefully ended the Seoul meeting with mutual understanding over the outstanding trade issues between the two countries.

In a joint communique, they shared the view that they would cooperate for the promotion of free global trade, while opposing any kind of trade restrictions.

They also were of the opinion that Korea and United States should tackle the mutual trade disputes in the spirit of free global trade.

It was noteworthy that the two sides agreed in the meeting of sub-panels related with investment, manufacture and services on the second day that trade disputes between the two countries should be settled by their business concerns rather than by legal means.

Despite their mutual agreement, the U.S. side called upon the Korean government to sincerely carry out its promise for the protection of intellectual property rights as well as to open markets wider.

They also demanded that the Korean government should treat U.S. businesses operating in Korea on equal footing with local business concerns, especially financing and insurance companies.

In return, the Korean side called upon the United States to remove restrictions on the import of textile products and correct an unequal aviation pact between the two countries.

Though the two sides stuck to their own interests, the council is expected to have a great impact on economic and trade relations between the two countries in the future.

The important role of the private-level council is attested by remarks by Roberick, the U.S. chairman of the council, who said that what was discussed in the Seoul meeting will be recommended to both governments.

Meanwhile, Deputy-Premier and Economic Planning Minister Na Ung-pae emphasized the future role of the council as he said that it is desirable to settle trade disputes between Korea and the United States through private levels, while avoiding their development as a political issue.

Many business experts agreed that the council was created as Korea and the United States are endeavoring to shun political and diplomatic burdens due to the development of the outstanding trade disputes into a political issue.

The government is striving to expand the liberalization of domestic markets in a bid to head off soaring trade friction with the United States, the largest export market for Korean products.

But its policy has been severely criticized these days, especially by farmers and people in low income brackets, thereby generating anti-American feelings more and more.

In the meantime, the two sides agreed to set up various working-level committees to handle such specific issues as the protection of intellectual property rights, which is interpreted as making the private-level council an official channel for trade negotiations between the two governments. With the creation of the council, it is generally expected that a number of domestic business concerns would rush to third countries through cooperation with U.S. businesses as most U.S. participants in the Seoul meeting represent multi-national enterprises.

However, there has appeared a negative attitude toward the council both in government and business circles that U.S. businessmen will try to pressure Korea through the council on behalf of their government as seen in a dispute over the omnibus U.S. trade bill on the first day of the Seoul meeting.

U.S., USSR Institutes on Korean Peninsula
*SK1610033688 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 16 Oct 88 pp 1, 2*

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP)—Two authoritative U.S. and Soviet research institutes have published joint recommendations for easing tension on the Korean peninsula, it was reported here Saturday.

The recommendations, which include the reduction of armed forces and the formation of a cabinet-level inter-Korean unification consultation body as a standing organization, have been presented to south and north Korea, the United States, the Soviet Union, China and Japan, the YOMIURI SHIMBUN reported in a front-page story.

It said that the recommendations, in a paper written by Stanford University's Strategic Research Institute and the Soviet Science Academy's Far East Research Institute in late June in the Soviet Union, emphasize that the United States and the Soviet Union should positively support the peaceful unification of the divided peninsula. It also calls on Japan and China to render support from the flank.

For drastic arms cuts on the Korean peninsula, it presented the European arms reduction conference in Stockholm in 1986 as a model, Yomirui said.

It is quite unusual for research institutes of the two superpowers to make joint proposals on a highly sensitive political subject. Political analysts said the proposal is based on the prevailing East-West reconciliatory mood and increasing relations between south Korea and the Soviet Union.

Yomiuri said an official of Stanford University visited the Japanese Foreign Ministry early this month to explain the proposals. He also told the ministry Soviet officials have said that north Korea has accepted the proposals in a positive manner.

The project, the newspaper said, was conducted as concrete measure for easing tension as indicated during the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting last May.

It suggests the conclusion of an accord designed to curtail ground forces, tanks, artillery and other specific weapons and urges the United States and the Soviet Union to positively consider signing a nuclear arms reduction treaty.

The joint proposals are drawing keen interest as they came amid concrete signs of lower tension on the Korean peninsula following the Seoul Olympics, analysts said.

The Soviet Science Academy has considerable influence on the drafting of policies by the Soviet Communist Party and the government. In this view the possibility is high that north Korea, under the influence of Moscow, will accept the proposals as their "blueprint."

USSR Policy Towards North, South Noted
*SK1510014588 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 15 Oct 88 p 1*

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP)—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has information that the Soviet Union has decided on an equidistance policy toward both south and north Korea, a high ranking official said yesterday.

The remarks back up a statement by a political commentator for IZVESTIYA that "two independent states exist on the Korean peninsula and it is, therefore, natural for Moscow to seek improvement of relations with Seoul."

The ministry official said a responsible Soviet official has said his country will treat south and north Korea on an equal footing. He did not go into details.

The official also said the ministry also has information that the Chinese government has decided to allow Chinese woman pingpong star Jiao Zhimin to marry Korean pingpong player An Chae-hyong. The Beijing government had refused to permit the marriage, apparently taking into account its ties to north Korea.

In view of these developments, he said, Korea's relations with China and the Soviet Union are progressing rapidly.

Alexander Bovin, a political commentator for IZVESTIYA and a close diplomatic aide to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, said in a recent interview with MAINICHI SHIMBUN that "it is simply an illusion to deny the reality that two states exist on the Korean peninsula."

KOTRA, USSR Group Exchange Memorandum
*SK1510082588 Seoul YONHAP in English
0818 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—The Korea Trade Promotion Corporation (KOTRA) and the Soviet Union's Chamber of Commerce and Industry exchanged a memorandum on Saturday stating that both sides agree to cooperate in realizing direct economic exchanges between South Korea and the Soviet Union, KOTRA officials said.

Under the memorandum, which was signed by Yi Son-ki, president of KOTRA, and Vladimir Golanov, vice chairman of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry, both sides agreed to collaborate on preparing all possible measures necessary to bring about direct trade between the two countries.

KOTRA and the Soviet Chamber agreed to conclude their negotiations on direct trade by signing an accord on business cooperation when a KOTRA delegation, to be headed by Yi, visits the Soviet Union in early December.

Golanov, who arrived in Seoul Tuesday, has discussed with Yi and other Korean Government officials about possible ways to realize business cooperation between the two countries.

The topics included exchanges of trade offices in each other's country, personnel exchanges including businessmen, and participation in each other's trade fairs by each country's businesses, KOTRA officials said.

The Soviet visitor, in his meeting with Korean business leaders, also discussed possible ways to realize joint investments in the fishing industry and Korean firms' participation in Siberian development projects, the officials said.

South Korea has no diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union.

Soviet Official 'Satisfied' With Talks
*SK1710023788 Seoul YONHAP in English
0211 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 17 (YONHAP)—The Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) are expected to put the final touches on the details of a mutual agreement on the

exchange of trade offices between the two sides when KOTRA President Yi Son-ki visits Moscow in December. Vladimir Golanov, deputy chairman of the Soviet chamber, said Sunday.

Golanov, in a press conference held at Kimpo International Airport shortly before his departure after a six-day visit to South Korea, said he was satisfied with the results of the negotiations he had with KOTRA officials in Seoul.

Asked to reveal the content of the negotiations, Golanov said his discussions with KOTRA officials touched on the possible promotion of economic cooperation and exchanges of information on trade and patent rights between the two organizations. He said another discussion topic was a proposal that the two organizations cooperate in arranging and sponsoring trade fairs.

Golanov pointed out that the Soviet chamber and KOTRA exchanged a memorandum on an agreement that the two sides adopt measures necessary for exchanging trade offices at an early date.

When asked to comment on possible access by South Korean enterprises to Siberian development projects, Golanov said that it was too early to predict such a possibility on a sector by sector basis since details of the development projects have yet to be finalized. He said, however, that prospects for South Korean businesses' participation will be brighter in accordance with the progress of trade relations between the two countries.

Cigarette Joint Venture Planned for China

SK1610011088 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 16 Oct 88 p 6

[Text] A joint venture cigarette manufacturing plant will be constructed at a Korean resident district in China's Jilin Province in the near future.

The country will also export some 20,000 tons of tobacco leaves worth 400 million won to China every year from 1989.

Hong Tu-pyo, president of the Korea Monopoly Corp. (KOMOCO), reached agreements on the two cases with the Chinese when he visited China for two weeks.

Sources at the KOMOCO said yesterday that the corporation will dispatch five technicians to Jilin Province next month to materialize the joint venture project for cigarette manufacturing.

It is reported that the corporation plans to produce 88 (Eighty Eight) Light at the joint venture plant in China.

The corporation also said that it is negotiating with Jilin Provincial authorities on the joint venture in manufacturing red ginseng and its products.

Currently, the country produces 70,000 tons of tobacco leaves a year, too much surplus compared to domestic consumption the as domestic market has opened to foreign cigarettes.

The corporation said it plans to make a maiden shipment of tobacco leaves to China early next year.

Meanwhile, the corporation has contracted to export 1,200 tons of tobacco leaves to Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Libya.

Westward Flights Not To Refuel in China

HK1310070188 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 13 Oct 88

[By Daniel Kwan and agencies]

[Text] Flights leaving Seoul for Zurich and Tripoli will not stop at Chinese cities for refuelling despite an announcement from South Korea's Transport Ministry yesterday saying that authorisation for the South Korea's flag carrier, Korean Air, to fly over Chinese territory until the end of this month had been granted by China.

The authorisation was made to extend an earlier permit for KAL to fly over China to transport athletes and officials to the Olympic Games in Seoul.

According to a KAL spokesman, the permit will be reviewed on a month-by-month basis depending on the development of relations between the two countries.

Under the renewed permit, officials said KAL would operate 17 flights on the Seoul-Zurich route and five on the Seoul-Tripoli route over Chinese territory. Boeing 747s leaving Seoul will fly directly to Bahrain and Jeddah on the Zurich route, while Airbuses bound for Tripoli will stop at Riyadh, capital of Saudi Arabia.

The Seoul-Zurich flight will be shortened by 41 minutes on the new route.

KAL will be able to save U.S.\$1,300 (HK\$10,140) worth of fuel per flight, compared with its previous southern route which goes through Taipei and Bangkok en route to European and Middle East points.

If everything goes well, KAL may consider opening commercial routes to Beijing and Shanghai, the KAL spokesman said.

KAL was also seeking an extension of a similar permit given to the airline from the Soviet Union which allowed the airline to fly over the Soviet Union on the Seoul-Europe route during the Olympic Games.

South Korea has no diplomatic relations with China or the Soviet Union.

—Meanwhile, the Australian Foreign Affairs Ministry said the state-owned flag carrier, Qantas Airways, was exploring the possibility of air links with Taiwan.

A spokesman said that interest had been expressed over the past year about establishing the air link. "Exploratory contacts between Qantas and airline interests in Taiwan" had taken place.

No Tae-u Meets With JSP's Ishibashi

OW1410120788 Tokyo KYODO in English 0500 GMT
14 Oct 88

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 KYODO—South Korean President No Tae-u told visiting former Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Chairman Masashi Ishibashi on Friday that his country wants to establish friendly relations with the Japanese top opposition party.

No met Ishibashi, who called on him accompanied by Kim Yong-sam, president of the South Korean opposition Reunification Democratic Party, at the presidential office here.

In the 50-minute meeting, Ishibashi told No that the JSP began to review its pro-Pyongyang Korean policy four years ago when he was chairman of the party.

The president said Ishibashi's visit to Seoul opened a "new era" and expressed hope it would serve as a basis for establishment of friendly relations between South Korea and Japan's No. 1 opposition party.

Ishibashi stressed that it is wrong to assume his party is only pro-North Korea. He said the JSP recognizes South Korea as a country.

He said the JSP has maintained friendship with the North because the Japanese Government has maintained ties only with the South even though Japan caused trouble to the entire Korean peninsula by its occupation of Korea before the end of World War II.

Ishibashi also told No that the purpose of his current visit is to establish friendly relations on the level of the peoples of Japan and South Korea.

The president displayed his willingness to improve his country's relations with the JSP by saying that the past is the past and what is important is the present.

In response to Ishibashi's appeal, No said he will strive for the realization of the release of Korean residents of Japan currently under detention in South Korea as political prisoners.

Ishibashi relayed to No a message of greetings sent by JSP Chairwoman Takako Doi.

After the Ishibashi-No meeting, Kim Yong-sam told reporters that Ishibashi's trip will be very useful to future JSP diplomacy.

Further on Talks

OW1410151988 Tokyo KYODO in English 1413 GMT
14 Oct 88

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 14 KYODO—Later in the day Ishibashi met with Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chae and Kim Chae-sun, chairman of the National Assembly.

Yi said that the JSP visit to South Korea was long in coming and leaves an unsatisfactory feeling.

He said he hoped that the emotional feelings the South Koreans have against the JSP will be dissolved.

Yi also expressed his hopes that the JSP will continue to review its policies toward South Korea if they need to be revised.

Ishibashi replied that he understood the intentions behind Yi's requests.

Kim said to Ishibashi that the Japan no. 1 opposition party's failure to hold exchanges with South Korea for the past 40 years was very strange and unnatural.

Although the JSP has been opposed to the Japan-South Korean Basic Treaty, the political and economic ties between the two countries have progressed much over the years, he said.

Kim requested that the JSP overcome its unfriendly attitudes and join the parliamentarian's league of the two countries.

Ishibashi said that there has been a misunderstanding that the JSP had not recognized South Korea, but that he believed that misunderstanding had been erased.

In a breakfast meeting with Kim Tae-chung, leader of the No. 1 opposition Party for Peace and Democracy, Ishibashi said he had visited the country to open a channel for citizen-level exchange between the two countries.

Kim said that he regrets that the JSP's policies toward South Korea were misunderstood and that because of partial distortion by the South Korean Government, the misunderstanding is spreading among the people.

However, Ishibashi's visit will be a turning point for the South Korean attitudes about the JSP, he said.

No Wants Closer Ties With JSP

SK1510003688 Seoul *THE KOREA TIMES* in English
15 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u expressed hope yesterday that the visit by former Japan Socialist Party chairman Masashi Ishibashi to Korea will serve as an occasion for sloughing off the JSP's anti-Seoul policy.

During a courtesy call by Ishibashi at Chongwadae, No said, "I hope the JSP will give objective recognition of Korea and that your visit will help sweep away all hindrances to exchanges and understanding between us."

Also on hand was Kim Yong-sam, president of the opposition Reunification Democratic Party, who invited Ishibashi here. The former JSP leader arrived Wednesday.

In 1985, Kim invited Ishibashi to visit Korea but Seoul government refused to issue an entry visa for the JSP leader on account of the JSP's pro-Pyongyang policy.

Ishibashi said that he was very happy to be eventually able to visit Korea after three years of waiting, according to a Chongwadae spokesman.

He noted that his remarks in Seoul were not his personal opinion but the position of the JSP "which is widely supported by the people." However, it will take time to change the party's position because of the complicated structure of the JSP.

Ishibashi was quoted as saying, "Japan has to repent sincerely its aggression against Korea and lots of sufferings brought down on Koreans but Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party has tried to cover up and forget the past as shown in the controversies over the distortion of history in textbooks."

He stressed, "The JSP is now in a position to deepen the understanding and promote friendly relationships between the two countries and I came here to demonstrate the party's position in person."

President No called upon Ishibashi to try to forge strong ties with Korea by establishing a positive party platform and the ex-JSP head promised that he would do his best to that end.

President No then expressed his thanks to Kim Yong-sam for his efforts for a suprapartisan diplomacy.

Ishibashi Willing To Improve Ties

SK1610013988 Seoul *THE KOREA HERALD*
in English 16 Oct 88 p 2

[Unattributed "News Analysis" column: "JSP Willing To Mend Fences With Seoul, Ishibashi Says"]

[Text] The Japan Socialist Party (JSP) seems to be looking for a "good excuse" to end its long-standing policy of cold-shouldering Seoul in favor of Pyongyang.

Masashi Ishibashi, former chairman of the JSP, Japan's largest opposition party, expressed his party's willingness to improve relations with Seoul, though Ishibashi is not officially representing the JSP.

Ishibashi, who flew into Seoul Wednesday for a five-day visit at the invitation of Kim Yong-sam, president of the Reunification Democratic Party, said the JSP would invite key RDP figures including Kim to Japan as part of formal party to party exchanges.

He also met separately with the leaders of Korea's four major political parties before paying a courtesy call on President No Tae-u Friday, which local political observers described as "quite exceptional" in view of the JSP's consistent "extremely cordial" relations with Pyongyang since the early 1960s. The JSP still refuses to recognize the Republic of Korea.

The JSP appears to be in a dilemma in its efforts to normalize relations with Seoul because it does not want to damage the party's special relationship with the north even if relations with the south are improved.

JSP chairwoman Takako Doi has been invited to visit Seoul by Kim Tae-chung, president of the largest opposition party in Korea—the Party for Peace and Democracy. Indications are that a visa will also be granted to Doi by the Korean government as a result of Ishibashi's efforts to improve the JSP's relations with Seoul.

"I personally know well that every poll conducted in any part of Korea has shown the bitter memories Koreans have harbored against Japan," said Ishibashi when he visited Yun Kil-chung, chairman of the ruling Democratic Justice Party Thursday.

"We reflect on ourselves in realizing the fact that the anti-Japan feeling originated from the Japanese invasion and colonialism of the past. However, the Japanese government expressed its regrets only to south Korea, which made my socialist party express similar regrets to north Korea" Ishibashi explained in an apparent move to dispel misunderstanding harbored against his party by Koreans.

He also made it clear that the JSP has never refused to recognize the Republic of Korea, pointing out that his party's standing policy on the Korean peninsula has been recognizing both states—south and north Korea—equally.

It was in 1985 that Ishibashi was first invited to visit Korea by Kim Yong-sam. The Fifth Republic refused to grant an entry visa to Ishibashi, who was then chairman of the JSP.

Up until now, relations between the JSP and Pyongyang have been far closer than those of any other Japanese political party, including the Japan Communist Party.

The JSP started to change its stance toward south Korea after President No Tae-u was elected in free and popular elections late last year. The JSP, however, has yet to recognize the validity of the 1965 treaty under which Korea and Japan normalized diplomatic relations.

JSP To Review Policy on South

OW1610111888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0456 GMT
16 Oct 88

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 16 KYODO—Masashi Ishibashi, visiting former chairman of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), on Sunday described the outcome of his talks with South Korean leaders as wonderful, much more so than expected.

His talks with the Korean leaders will kick off JSP's review of its policy on South Korea, Ishibashi said in a press conference held in a Seoul Hotel at the end of his five-day visit here.

During his stay, the JSP leader told President No Tae-u and others that it is wrong to assume that the No. 1 Japanese opposition party is only pro-North Korea. In response to criticism that JSP has been hostile to Seoul, Ishibashi stressed that his party recognizes South Korea as a country.

During Sunday's press conference, he clarified a three-point position as JSP's official stance.

First, JSP will steadily conduct a reassessment of its policy on South Korea and prepare for a Seoul visit by JSP Chairwoman Takako Doi by the end of this year, Ishibashi said.

Secondly, he said JSP would try to help promote dialogue between North and South Korea while watching North Korea's reaction to his Seoul visit.

He took up as the third point JSP's utmost efforts to settle all problems resulting from the last war, including the protection of rights of Korean residents in Japan.

Ishibashi visited this country at the invitation of Kim Yong-sam, leader of the Korea Reunification Democratic Party, leading a 10-member JSP delegation.

Ishibashi disclosed a plan to invite Kim Yong-sam to Japan later this year for a final consultation on the plan for JSP leader Doi to make the Seoul visit as early as possible.

He visited Kim at his residence and the two talked over breakfast on Sunday.

Ishibashi told reporters that he and Kim agreed on their parties' continued close contacts and on their possible roles in promoting the North-South dialogue for reconciliation and reunification.

In this context, Ishibashi said he believes that his visit and talks here dispelled what he termed as a misunderstanding that JSP was only pro-Pyongyang.

During the press conference, he said he realized during the current visit that many problems which had resulted from Japan's past colonial rule are still unsettled.

He cited, among others, the medical treatment in Japan for Korean survivors of the 1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He also referred to the question on home visits by Korean who had been left behind in Soviet Sakhalin and the need to correct the legal status of Korean residents in Japan.

In particular, Ishibashi mentioned the Japanese finger-printing requirement for Korean and other foreign residents when registering their residence.

Ishibashi also said JSP will step up its call on the South Korean authorities to release Korean residents of Japan, held in South Korea as political prisoners, as quickly as possible.

Ishibashi Meets With Press

SK1710015888 Seoul YONHAP in English
0140 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 16 (YONHAP)—Masashi Ishibashi, former chairman of the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), said Sunday that his visit to Seoul has marked a turning point for the virtual improvement of his party's relations with South Korea.

"My opinion is consistent with that of JSP's Secretary-General Tsuruo Yamaguchi," said Ishibashi at a news conference here before leaving for Japan at the end of his five-day visit.

Ishibashi came to Korea at the invitation of Kim Yong-sam, president of the second largest opposition Reunification Democratic Party.

Ishibashi said he would deliver the South Korean National Assembly's request that the JSP join the Korea-Japan Parliamentary Union and do his best to achieve the message's goal.

The Japan Socialist Party has long maintained pro-Pyongyang policies and declined to recognize the South Korean Government. Ishibashi's visit to South Korea marked the first visit here by an influential figure of the party.

"I personally will take the lead to resolve the problems arising from the past Japanese colonial rule over Korea including the return of Koreans left on the Sakhalin Island since the 1945 end of World War II and due compensation for Korean victims of the atomic bombing of Japan in the world war," Ishibashi said.

Touching on the legal status of Koreans residing in Japan, he said he would do his best for Koreans there to enjoy the same rights as Japanese nationals.

While in South Korea, Ishibashi met with major Korean political leaders including president No Tae-u and Kim Tae-chung, president of the leading opposition Party for Peace and Democracy.

Ishibashi said he promised Kim Yong-sam that the JSP would make unsparing efforts to maintain peace on the Korean peninsula.

Finance Ministry Issues List on Import Items

SK1510013588 Seoul YONHAP in English
0119 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 15 (YONHAP)—Foreign trading firms in South Korea will be allowed to import any items, except for 12, and sell them on the Korean market from now on, the Finance Ministry announced Saturday.

The 12 items are grains, meat, fruits and vegetables, alcoholic beverages, fertilizers, oil, gas, books and newspapers, food and beverages, antiques and works of art, agricultural chemicals, and briquets.

So far, foreign trading companies in Korea, those in which foreigners' share exceeds 50 percent, have only been allowed to import nine items, including communications equipment, machines, tools and ironware.

U.S. and European trading firms operating here have persistently demanded that the government permit them to import any item, including medicine and cosmetics.

The ministry also plans to allow entry by foreigners in the Korean wholesale business, beginning next year.

No Tells Ministers To Push Economic Policy

SK1510013188 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 15 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u yesterday told economic ministers to push ahead with economic policies with strong conviction and without being swayed by public opinion.

The pent-up desires and frustrations of all segments of society are now pouring out against the backdrop of democratization, No said, asking the ministers to be cool-headed and confident.

No made the points after a briefing by Deputy Prime Minister Na Wung-pae and other economic ministers at Chongwadae.

No told the ministers to closely coordinate with the ruling party in deciding the government purchase price of rice.

No also suggested they contact opposition leaders to explain the government's rice pricing policies in detail.

Underscoring the need for proper publicity of the rice pricing policies, No said farmers and the general public must fully understand the rice purchase price also concerns the national economy as a whole.

He instructed the ministers to make allout efforts to regain public confidence by implementing economic policies as pledged publicly while working out new policies on a long-term basis.

No also directed the ministers to work out a comprehensive policy package aimed at reducing the metropolitan population, which already exceeds 10 million.

He suggested the Prime Minister's Office prepare the package in coordination with economic ministries after soliciting opinions from all academic and social interest groups.

Stressing the need for balanced longterm development, No directed the ministers to consider the opinions of regional residents before pushing ahead with development projects.

West coast development projects should be undertaken to usher in a new era, but should not be open to public criticism, he said.

Former First Lady Yi Sun-cha Willing To Testify

SK1510010588 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
15 Oct 88 p 1

[Text] Former first lady Yi Sun-cha said yesterday, she would appear before a House panel if so requested to testify in connection with her activity as the chairwoman of the Saesdae Foundation.

The former first lady made these remarks in a brief encounter with reporters after presiding over a general meeting of the foundation.

Wearing a dark blue two piece dress, she said she could not talk long with reporters, citing the fact that she is suffering from a sort of nervous breakdown.

She did not reveal what she is suffering from because of what she said were vicious groundless rumors about her.

She said she felt at ease now that she decided to step down as the chairwoman of the foundation which she founded for charity projects including helping children suffering from heart ailments and operating pre-school education for children of destitute families.

She presided over the general congress in which she revealed that she would resign as the chairwoman of the foundation and revealed general operational matters of the foundation to about 120 deputies of the foundation.

In the meeting, she said she did not receive in person any contribution from donors, saying that it was accepted by Chongwadae.

She said she only delivered receipts to donors after the donations were made.

Therefore it is totally groundless that she pocketed part of the donations, she said. Not even a small amount of spillover could be expected she said.

Barely had she met with reporters for about five minutes, then she was led away to a sedan by foundation officials.

To Reveal Saesedae Donors

SK1510011788 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
15 Oct 88 p 3

[Text] Former first lady Yi Sun-cha said she would step down as the chairwoman of the Saesedae Foundation as well as reveal the names of the people who made capital donations to the foundation.

Reading a prepared statement to the general meeting of the foundation yesterday Yi said she came to found the non-profit organization out of a pure wish to help the future generation with the firm conviction that the organization was necessary for the future of the nation.

With all sincerity and honesty, she said she operated the organization. Notwithstanding, she said that the organization has been engulfed in a wave of public criticism and distrust.

When she entered the conference room of the foundation shortly after 2 p.m., all foundation members rose to their feet and gave loud applause, clapping their hands.

In a flood of flashing cameras, she went to the podium. As reporters vied with one another for a better position for photos, the former first lady asked them to calm down, promising them that she would meet them after the meeting.

She continued with a prepared statement that said she had come to think that her lack of virtue was the reason for the current disagreeable situation in which the foundation finds itself now.

Feeling responsibility for such an undesirable situation, she said she had decided to resign as the chairwoman of the organization.

As for a revelation of the donations, she said she had tried to keep names and amounts from publicity in the conviction that it was proper and right for her to do so.

However, her efforts have been taken for a kind of senseless and shameless ploy to cover up irregularities which outsiders believe to be rampant in the foundation. This has made her reveal the names of donors and their donation amounts, she said.

She said she had never, however, used her position as the first lady in raising donations, nor had she used even a penny of her personal interests.

In the six-page statement, she violently argued that all "vicious" rumors about her are not true to fact.

For yesterday's meeting, she arrived at the Saesedae headquarters aboard a Grandeur sedan at about 1:40 p.m.

She came alone accompanied only by a bodyguard in the front seat.

She said with smile, "How are you," when she was greeted by the Saesedae officials at the entrance.

When deputy secretary-general of the foundation, Ms. Yon Ung-suk, was making a report about what was taken issue of recently by an administration inspection team, she tried to set the records straight.

Meanwhile, her voice trembled when she read the final part of her prepared statement.

She said she refuses any "favorable" treatment just because she was once the first lady. She said she did not want to shirk responsibility with excuses in a demeaning manner.

She said, "I am open to any type of scrutiny. Please do whatever it takes to uncover the truth."

Meanwhile, the former first lady has been asked to present herself before the Education-Information Committee of the National Assembly as witness in connection with the on-going parliamentary inspection of the administration.

17 October 1988

Prepared To Testify Before Panel

*SK1610015088 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 16 Oct 88 p 1*

[Text] The ruling and three opposition parties yesterday agreed to seek the testimony of Yi Sun-cha, wife of ex-president Chon Tu-hwan, on the controversial fund-raising for the Saesedae Foundation and its operation in a special parliamentary panel to probe into irregularities of the Fifth Republic.

Instead, the former first lady will not be forced to come to the other committees during the current parliamentary inspection.

Floor leaders of the ruling and opposition parties made the decision through a consultation with officers of the Education-Information and Public Administration Committees after Mrs. Yi expressed her intention to show up at a special committee session after the current parliamentary inspections are over.

Mrs. Yi told the general meeting of the foundation Friday that she was resigning as the chairwoman of the foundation and was willing to testify at the Assembly.

The whips of the rival parties agreed that Yi Sun-cha will be allowed to choose the date of her testimony at the ad hoc House panel investigating irregularities perpetrated under the rule of ex-president Chon.

Following the decision of the floor leaders, the House Education-Information Committee decided in its session yesterday not to issue a parliamentary writ for the testimony of the ex-president's wife.

The House Education-Information Committee conducted its inspection of the Saesedae Foundation with the attendance of secretary general and other senior officials of the foundation yesterday.

Senior officials of the foundation reported that it would submit the list of 79 contributors of money to the Assembly and the Seoul City Board of Education by Oct. 22.

The government party is expected to consult with Mrs. Yi on the date of her testimony at the Assembly panel and decide it through negotiation with the opposition parties.

A senior officer of the Democratic Justice Party observed that the former first lady will show up at the House panel early next month.

Meanwhile, three opposition parties issued separate statements about the matter yesterday.

Rep. Yi Sang-su of the Party for Peace and Democracy said, "It is a good move, though late, for Mrs. Yi to have expressed her willingness to testify at the Assembly. We hope that suspicions involving her will be bared through the Assembly investigation thoroughly."

"But her reflection on her wrongdoings during the seven years at Chongwadae are short of popular expectations," said the PPD spokesman.

Rep. So Chong-won of the Reunification Democratic Party said, "It is very natural for Mrs. Yi to resign from the chairmanship of the foundation under popular criticism."

Assembly Panel To Summon Ex-KCIA Chief

*SK1610012688 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 16 Oct 88 p 2*

[Text] A parliamentary panel, probing Fifth Republic corruption, yesterday decided to summon former intelligence chief Chang Se-tong and 19 others to appear at hearing sessions slated Oct. 27 and 30.

They will be asked to testify on the establishment of the controversial Ilhae (former President Chon Tu-hwan's pennam.) Foundation and its fund-raising, a panel spokesman said yesterday.

The hearing sessions will be the first-ever such sessions in the republic's parliamentary history.

Those to be summoned include An Hyon-tae, former chief of the presidential security service during Chon's rule and Chong Chu-yung, honorary chairman of the Hyundai Group.

The panel failed to decide if Chon should also be summoned to appear at the hearing session, at its general meeting Friday afternoon.

Opposition members demanded that Chon be included, but the ruling party members were all-out to block the opposition move.

Ministry Forms Committee on Military Neutrality

*SK1410011088 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 14 Oct 88 pp 2, 3*

[Text] The government is considering dissolving the Association of Korean Sports for All [AKSA], affiliated with the Saemul Headquarters previously headed by Chon Kyong-hwan, younger brother of ex-President Chon Tu-hwan.

Testifying before the National Assembly Education-Information Committee, Minister of Sports Cho Sang-ho said, "The AKSA should not be fostered as a social sports association, considering prevalent popular estimation of it and its difficulty in raising funds."

Cho said the ministry is considering dissolving it at a proper time, adding there will be no support for the association from the state next year.

The Education-Information Committee was one of the 14 National Assembly committees which were inspecting the administration on the ninth day of the ongoing 20-day parliamentary audit and inspection of state affairs.

During the hearing, committee members demanded to know whether money was wasted during the Seoul Olympic Games.

They also called on the Sports Ministry to account for why it has provided so much financial support to the AKSA during the past several years.

Meanwhile, the Defense Ministry said it has formed a special committee to ensure the political neutrality of the military.

In a report to the Assembly Defense Committee, the ministry said the panel is also studying ways to rearrange missions of the Defense Security Command so that it will stop intervening in civilian affairs.

The report came as an answer to a lawmaker's question if the ministry has any plan to guarantee the political nonintervention of the military.

The Finance Committee decided to summon 14 people, including Kim Man-che, former minister of the Economic Planning Board, Sakong Il, ex-presidential economic aide and former Finance Minister Chong In-yong, to testify before the panel on Oct. 24 regarding the controversial mergers and transfers of financially weak business firms in the early 1980s.

In the hearing of the Health-Social Affairs Committee, panelists denounced the police abuse of tear gas during the past seven years.

The committee decided to summon Han Yong-cha, president of the tear gas manufacturer Samyang Chemical and an environmental expert to testify before the panel on Oct. 22 about the impact of tear gas on humans and the environment.

Testifying before an Assembly panel Wednesday night, Yi Hong-ku, minister of national unification, said the government plans to enact a special law on inter-Korea exchanges.

Violations of current laws, including the National Security Law, are expected to increase with the expected growth of contacts and exchanges between South and North Korea, said Yi.

Yi said the new law is aimed at making certain South-North exchanges legal.

RDP Seeks Limits on Defense Security Command
SK1510004588 Seoul *THE KOREA TIMES* in English
15 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] The opposition Reunification Democratic Party seeks to revise the Armed Forces Organization Law and two related laws in a bid to prevent the Defense Security Command (DSC) from engaging in "political surveillance."

Military officers will also be banned from being appointed defense minister or vice and assistant defense minister until five years after their retirement from active military service in order to reduce the political influence of the military.

The projected amendment to the Armed Forces Organization Law will place agents of the military intelligence agency under direct control of each service command thus to de-centralize the function and role of the Defense Security Command.

The amendment stipulates that all military units including intelligence agencies are banned from collecting information on the activities of organizations established under the Constitution and political parties and other social institutions which are registered with the Central Election Management Committee.

Chief policy-maker Hwang Pyong-tai said that frequent abuse of human rights of civilians by the Defense Security Command and its political surveillance have been possible because of the centralized operation of the top military intelligence agency.

"The projected revisions are designed to institutionally prevent the political intervention of the military through the democratization of the military organization," said the RDP chief policy-maker.

He said that the RDP will submit the amendments to the three laws to the national Assembly during the on-going regular session which closes on December.

The two other laws are the Court-Martial Law and the Government Organization Law.

NSP Director Taking Steps To Ensure Reform
SK1510023188 Seoul *THE KOREA HERALD*
in English 15 Oct 88 p 1

[Text] The Agency for National Security Planning is taking steps to ensure its political neutrality, NSP Director Pae Myong-in said yesterday.

Testifying before a parliamentary panel, Pae said the former Korean Central Intelligence Agency will carry out its projects strictly according to the law and moral code.

The National Assembly's Defense Committee members were making the first-ever parliamentary audit and inspection of the nation's top intelligence agency yesterday.

The agency has contributed much to the preservation of national security under the special national situation where south and north Korea have been in bitter confrontation for the past four decades, Pae testified.

At the same time, he said, the agency committed many errors that drew popular fire and controversy.

Fourteen other parliamentary committees made on-the-spot inspections of government agencies on the 10th day of the ongoing 20-day parliamentary probe into state affairs.

Opposition lawmakers asked about allegations that the NSP was responsible for numerous major political scandals, including kidnapping Kim Tae-chung from a Tokyo hotel and the Kwon In-suk sex torture scandal.

They also inquired about recent allegations that a Seoul National University professor, Choe Chong-kil, was tortured to death by the agency.

The NSP claims Choe committed suicide during interrogation by jumping out of a window.

Rep. Kwon No-kap of the Party for Peace and Democracy said he would summon former NSP Director Chang Se-tong to testify on the political scandals, particularly the Kwon In-suk scandal.

Police investigator Mun Kui-tong sexually harassed Kwon, a Seoul National University student, during interrogation in 1986.

Rep. Hwang Myong-su of the RDP said the NSP law contains clauses that contradict the Constitution and abet human rights violations.

He also charged that the agency has freely spent taxpayers' money in the name of intelligence gathering.

The National Assembly's Administrative Affairs Committee inspected the Seoul Metropolitan Police Headquarters.

Opposition lawmakers denounced the police for failing to catch the armed fugitives who have terrorized Seoul citizens for the past week.

Metropolitan Police Chief Kim Po-hyun promised to provide perfect security during the Seoul Paralympics, which open today.

Security will be provided by 8,646 policemen selected from the '88 Olympic Security Forces, he said.

Assembly Says NSP 'Meddling'
*SK1510002588 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES
in English 15 Oct 88 p 2*

[Text] Assemblymen yesterday pounded the Agency for National Security Planning for its alleged meddling in political affairs, censorship of personal mail, torture and abuses of power.

In the inspection of the government agency, held behind closed doors at the NSP's request, Defense Committee members demanded that it stand neutral in political conflicts and indulge only in its proper commission of anti-espionage activities.

NSP director Pae Myong-in said at the start of his report that the agency is working out measures to keep it independent from political power and improve the organization and operations "drastically" to rectify past wrongdoings.

Opposition members called for the release of all documents relating to the death of a Seoul National University professor, Choe Chong-kil, in 1973 at the compound of the agency, then named the Central Intelligence Agency.

Choe was brought to the agency after opposing punishment of a student activist in a faculty meeting, and was later accused of spying for North Korea.

The lawmakers asked why the agents denied the Choe family's request to be present at the autopsy and their access to the site where the CIA claimed the law professor committed suicide by jumping from a seventh-floor window.

Last week, the Catholic Priests Association for the Realization of Social Justice called for reinvestigation of the case, maintaining that he was tortured to death, based on allegations by the family members.

The oppositionists urged the agency to disclose the nature of the so-called inter-agency consultation meeting which allegedly decided on policies on key issues with political implications such as the torture-death of a collegian, Pak Chong-chol, and sexual torture of a woman labor activist, Kwon In-suk, last year.

The NSP's opinion had usually been adopted at the conclusion of the consultation meetings held at the agency's offices and chaired by an NSP representative, oppositionists claimed.

In testimony before the Assembly Judiciary Committee, Prosecutor General Yi Chong-nam partly admitted that consultations had been held while ex-president Chon Tu-hwan was in office to discuss government positions on sensitive issues but the "working-level talks" had not

been held on a regular basis. His testimony was the first confirmation of the existence of the controversial mechanism through which the NSP was able to meddle in domestic political affairs.

The inquiries of the oppositionists also centered on legal basis for the NSP to audit secret expense accounts of other government institutions, generally used to by people's support for the government.

They demanded why the agency has delayed indictment of Kim Hyon-hui, a North Korean agent arrested for the sabotage of a Korean Air jetliner in the skies over Burma at the peak of a presidential campaign on Nov. 29, last year.

The members from the Party for Peace and Democracy pressed for the disclosure of facts about the arrest of their leader Kim Tae-chung on far-fetched sedition charges on May 17, 1980, an act which triggered a massive uprising in Kwangju, suppressed with bloodshed by military troops.

They asked the NSP director to confirm information that the agency has put a total of 250,000 civilians on the black list and has them under its constant surveillance.

His reply was not immediately available.

In his speech, Pae said, "Since I was assigned to the post, I have been reforming the organization and operations of the NSP to help it make faithful to its proper functions within the framework of the pertinent laws and based on morality.

"The NSP is correcting its old irregularities itself. We are preparing for an institutional mechanism which will guarantee our political non-interference," he went on.

"I admit that out various trials and errors have aroused public suspicion and criticism while we have been coping with the difficult situation of the time," he said, but he added that the has to praise the contribution of the NSP to national security in the situation of confrontation with the Communist North.

Abolition of DSC Urged

SK1610020788 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
16 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] Opposition members of the Assembly Defense Committee yesterday demanded the abolishment of the Defense Security Command [DSC] which they said tortured civilian anti-government activists classified as subversives, and intervened in political matters.

Hwang Myong-su the Reunification Democratic Party and Kwon No-kap of the Party for Peace and Democracy told DSC Commander, Lieut. Gen. Choe Pyong-uk, of the need to revise the pertinent law and disband the command.

During an inspection of the military intelligence outfit, the opposition members recalled Defense Minister O Cha-pok's earlier statement that a committee would be set up to review the current functions and immense organization of the DSC.

They said that the Army, Navy and Air Force might as well have their own intelligence agency suited to their unique missions instead of the integrated and heavy-powered body.

As to the forced merger of news media companies in 1980, Kwon asked who pressed publishers of newspapers and presidents of broadcast companies to sign an already-printed memoranda giving up their firms on Nov. 12 and who reported the progress to then president Chon Tu-hwan.

The publishers later said that they were compelled by some field grade officers of the DSC. The commander at that time was No Tae-u, who schemed that the merger plan is a key concern of the Assembly Education-Information Committee.

Arguing that one of the memoranda, learned to have been presented by Chang Ki-pong, publisher of the now abolished daily SIN-A ILBO, was fabricated due to the facts he refused to sign it, Kwon demanded its presentation before the panel.

He further said that there have been widespread rumors that the command has applied farfetched espionage charges on student activists and got confessions by means of torture.

Kwon asked about the legal basis of the confiscation of a book, written by a former DSC agent and entitled, "The Defense Security Command," in which he disclosed that several student activists were tortured to admit fabricated espionage charges and their forced confession was usually adopted as evidence in trials under meddling by the agency.

Hwang alleged that the DSC led a wholesale roundup of dissidents in social and religious circles in the face of the visit by Pope John Paul II in May 1984 and one case of the crackdown was the suppression of Pak Hyong-gyu at the Cheil church in Seoul.

Yi Chae-kun of the PPD called for the instant closure of clandestine interrogation branches including those in Sobinggo, Songpa and Changji-dong in Seoul where torture has been a common tool used for questioning of civilian anti-government suspects.

No answers were immediately available as the session was held behind closed doors at the request of the command.

Cho Yun-hyong of the PPD and Choe Hyong-u of the RDP said that they were victims of the DSC'S torture of opposition politicians.

Choe disclosed that 17 politicians including himself were taken to the command on July 18, 1980, shortly after Chon virtually seized power through the establishment of a military junta, and were coerced to abandon parliamentary memberships and personal property through torture and threats.

Meanwhile, at an inspection session of the Public Administration Committee, Kim U-hyon, Seoul metropolitan police chief, said that combat police would be reduced by over 5,000 in the first phase from next month through May next year.

Opposition lawmakers claimed in an inspection of the Korea Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO) yesterday that it was illegal for the corporation to have changed the supplier of nuclear power plants No. 11 and 12 without undergoing due procedures.

They questioned Pak Chong-ki, former president of the KEPCO, whether he had received pressure from the relatives of ex-president Chon Tu-hwan including his younger brother Chon Kyong-hwan to change the supplier of nuclear reactors from Westinghouse Company of the United States to its rival Combustion Engineering.

Rep. Kim Tok-kyu of the Party for Peace and Democracy said, "It is clearly illegal for the KEPCO to have changed the supplier of the nuclear reactors without prior deliberation of the Nuclear Power Deliberation Commission."

The former KEPCO president asserted in his testimony that he was not entrusted by the then president Chon Tu-hwan with full power with regard to the contract for the nuclear power plants.

DJP, Government Disagree on Rice Price Hike
*SK1610014488 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 16 Oct 88 p 2*

[Text] The tug of war between the government and the ruling DJP as to the state purchase price of rice from farmers this fall is still going on because of differing opinions on the year-to-year increase rate.

At a government-DJP coordinating meeting held at DJP headquarters yesterday, the DJP kept insisting that the year-to-year increase rate of the state rice purchase price should be at least 14 percent while the government sticks to a single-digit increase rate considering the overall inflation trend.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries joined the party's demand for a 14.1 to 15.1 percent increase in the state rice purchase price this fall on what they described as a "marginal production cost-accounting basis."

The Economic Planning Board [EPB], however, kept insisting that the state rice purchase price for this year could not be fixed at higher than a single digit level in consideration of the government's ongoing price stabilization efforts.

The EPB explained that last year's 14 percent mark-up in the state rice purchase price was possible mainly because of the across-the-board cut in oil prices against the backdrop of the overall price stabilization efforts that paid off well.

The government-DJP meeting, however, agreed to increase the state's purchase volume of red pepper for this fall to 25,000 tons, up 5,000 tons from the original 20,000 tons to cushion the uninterrupted downturn in cash crop prices.

Burma

Elections Commission Meets Political Parties

BK1410155488 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] A meeting was held at the conference hall of the Office of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections at 1400 today to discuss the formation of divisional, state, and township branches of political parties which have registered with the commission in accordance with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law, and other general matters.

The meeting was attended by chairmen, vice chairmen, general secretaries, and two secretaries each from the parties. Commission Secretary U Aye Maung first read out the agenda of the meeting and introduced the commission members to the representatives of the political parties present at the meeting.

In his opening speech, Commission Chairman U Ba Htay said the meeting was called to discuss the present situation and matters related to the general elections. He said registered political parties have no right to organize separate organizations under them for political activities and that any organizations which wants to participate in general elections and engage in political activities will have to register with the commission in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the commission. He said they will be allowed to contest the elections and to engage in political activities only after registration with the commission. He added that registered political activities have the right to form branches in states, divisions, townships, and wards, and they are not allowed to display their posters on public buildings, state buildings, and government buildings. In reference to restrictions contained in Order No 2/88 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council issued on 18 October [as heard] 1988, the commission allows the display of posters and gatherings and meetings inside buildings in states, divisions, and townships and political parties are to coordinate officially with the divisional, state, and township law and order restoration councils for these activities.

In reference to the timetable for the democratic multiparty general elections, he said the State Law and Order Restoration Council as well as the commission want to hold the general elections as soon as possible and he hoped the political parties have the same desire. He said all have a common desire and the prevalence of law and order and local peace and tranquillity are necessary for the fulfillment of that desire.

He said the commission has many tasks to be carried out if elections are to be held successfully, and suitable time must be given to the political parties to contest the elections. The commission expects to complete all preparations for holding the elections by early 1989. Once law and order and local peace and tranquility are achieved the committee will meet with the political parties and

announce a suitable date for holding elections. He said the commission is trying its utmost to make the elections free and fair and said he believed that genuinely democratic general elections could be held if the political parties and independent candidates contesting in the elections strictly observe the prescribed laws, bylaws, and directives and avoid what is prohibited by law.

In response, representatives of the political parties present at the meeting discussed matters relating to the holding of free and fair elections, freedom to organize, permission to display party posters in states, divisions, and townships, more coverage in the press, radio, and television to explain the aims and programs of the political parties, the right of united fronts to form organizations under them, and the forming of alliances among parties.

In response to the discussions of the members of the political parties, Saya Chai, member of the commission, said the commission takes note of the matters presented by the political parties and that it would take action on matters that need to be attended to. He added that the commission had consulted with the authorities concerned to be fair in the presentation of the aims and programs of the political parties and that newspaper, radio, and television coverage is also being provided according to the time and space available. He said as the registered political parties do not have legal status, they can write to the authorities concerned and present their case systematically and send copies of the letters to the commission. The commission would give necessary assistance.

He said in carrying out organizational work in states, divisions, and townships, registered political parties should first coordinate their activities with state, divisional, and township law and order restoration councils concerned. He said any organizations formed under united fronts will have to register with the commission and that the formation of alliances between parties is not related to the commission's work, but it concerns only the political parties concerned. He said the commission is making arrangements to form branches of the commission in states, divisions, townships, wards, and villages as soon as possible. He urged the responsible persons of the political parties to cooperate to achieve law and order and local peace and tranquillity as soon as possible to enable the elections to be held by early 1989.

The meeting ended in the evening after the commission chairman urged those present to work together with the commission toward holding of free and fair democratic multiparty elections successfully and smoothly and for construction of a genuinely democratic country.

Elections Delayed Until Early 1989

OW1510002288 Tokyo KYODO in English 2350 GMT
14 Oct 88

[Text] Bangkok, Oct. 15 KYODO—Burmese general elections promised earlier by the military government under Gen. Saw Maung will not be held until early next year, political parties were told on Friday.

According to a Radio Rangoon report Friday night, a five-member election management commission earlier in the day briefed representatives from registered political parties formed since saw Maung seized power in a bloodless coup on September 18.

The election commission said that it would finish its work by early next year and that it would call at political parties later to consult on the date for multiparty elections, the radio reported.

Meanwhile, the renamed National Unity Party (NUP), which was formerly the ruling Burma Socialist Program Party (BSPP) up to September 26, officially registered with the election commission on Friday.

Another new group, the Democrat Party for a New Society, also registered with the commission on Friday, the radio reported.

NUP, supported by the government and the military, is widely regarded as the most powerful political group.

Its major rival is believed to be the opposition National League for Democracy (NLD), though no opposition parties have said yet whether they will actually participate in the elections.

NLD is chaired by former Brig.- Gen. Aung Gyi and its secretary general is Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of the late national hero Gen. Aung San.

National Unity Party Officially Registered
*BK1410151888 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] The National Unity Party, which has its headquarters at No 93C, Windermere Road, Kamayut Township, Rangoon Division, has been permitted to register as of 12 October 1988 in accordance with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 18 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The National Unity Party has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Chairman:
U Tha Kyaw;

General Secretary:
U Tun Yi;

Joint General Secretay:
U Than Tin;

Members:
U Chit Hlaing;
U Hla Tun;
U Khin Maung Gyi;
U Ohn Kyi;

U Htwe Han;
U Thein Ngwe;
U Aung Thein;
U Nyein Maung;
U Ba Thaw;
U Van Kul;
U Myint Lwin;
U Kyaw Khin Win;
U M. Sinsar;
U Thaung Dan;
U Tha Shin;

Secretaries:
U Tin Lat;
U Han Shwe;
U Kyaw Sein Win; and
U Ba Thein.

'Disarray' in NUP Reported

*BK1710122488 Hong Kong AFP in English 1143 GMT
17 Oct 88*

[By Khin Maung Thwin]

[Text] Rangoon, Oct 17 (AFP)—Burma's former ruling party is in disarray after the resignation of strongman Ne Win, casting doubt over its chances of making an electoral comeback under a new name, party sources here said.

The National Unity Party (NUP), which ran the country under single party rule for 26 years under its previous name, the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP), was authorized by a government-appointed election commission Wednesday.

It was formally legalized on Friday.

Former party chairman General Ne Win, who resigned July 23, was believed to be guiding the military junta that took power in a coup last month, but he had not associated himself with the NUP, the party sources said.

Party members felt they were "without a godfather," one source said.

Even those members of the BSPP Central Executive Committee who had joined the NUP leadership were not considered "bigshots" and lacked the political clout of Gen. Ne Win and his fleeting successors Sein Lwin and Maung Maung.

"Ne Win is totally disenchanted with the BSPP's bad reputation and does not want to have anything to do with the NUP anymore," one party source said.

The sources noted that in the past everyone wanted to enjoy the power and prestige of being a BSPP member when the 3.7 million-strong party was in power, but one added that now it has "become unpopular with everybody."

The party was disabled by mass defections of members at the grass-roots level during widespread pro-democracy demonstrations from August, which ended when Army Chief Saw Maung seized power September 18.

(The NUP was having problems adjusting to preparations for general elections as it was designed for one-party rule, a diplomat in Bangkok said.)

(While the BSPP's infrastructure had been far-ranging, with "its tentacles into everything," the NUP leadership would have to build on the remains of "patron-client relationships... on a person-to-person level," he said.)

The about-face in the political situation could boost the chances of Burma's 17 registered opposition parties in early polls, diplomats here said.

Previously, opposition leaders felt they needed time to organize against the NUP's strong national network and that the NUP would win by a landslide if the Burmese went to the polls within a year, diplomats said.

The five-member election commission's Chairman Ba Htay was quoted by Radio Rangoon on Friday as saying he hoped elections could be held early next year.

The opposition has said it will participate in the polls only if they are free and fair.

Some of the newly registered parties were negotiating to form an alliance against the NUP.

To stay within the law, the NUP has had to hand over state property to the military junta, including the sites, buildings and vehicles which it had free access to when the BSPP intersected with various national institutions.

But the party reportedly has funds totalling some 180 million kyats (29 million dollars at the official exchange rate), while the other parties are thought to be poorly funded.

Sources at NUP headquarters here said staff numbers would be cut from some 8,500 people to about 250. Salaries were to be slashed approximately in half and staff would not receive pensions.

The NUP now rents a private house in Rangoon as its headquarters, party sources said.

Democratic Party for New Society Registers
*BK1410160688 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] The Democratic Party for New Society, which has its headquarters at No 822, Maha Bandoola Street, Lanmadaw Township, Rangoon Division has been permitted to register as of 13 October 1988 in accordance

with Section 5A of the Political Parties Registration Law. This was announced in Announcement No 19 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections.

The Democratic Party for New Society has been formed with the following Central Executive Committee:

Chairman:
U Myo Than Tut alias Moetheezaw;

Vice Chairman:
U Tin Tut alias Thet Tun;

General Secretary:
U Naing Win alias Moe Hein;

Joint General Secretary:
U Ye Naing Aung;

Treasurer:
U Tin Tun Hlaing;

Information:
U Win Myint Aung;

Organization:
U Kyaw Min Yu alias (Zinmay);

Management and Discipline:
U Yin Htwe.

Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League Policies
*BK1610144388 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[“Press Release No 6/88 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, dated 16 October 1988—the 6th day of the waxing moon of Thadingyut, 1350 Burmese era”]

[Text] 1. The following are the objectives and work programs of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League, which has registered with the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections in accordance with the Political Parties Registration Law, and which has moved its headquarters to No 84, Hume Road, Sanchaung Township, Rangoon Division.

2. Objectives

- A. To oppose all forms of fascism and fascist policies.
- B. To preserve and safeguard the independence and sovereignty of Burma.
- C. To develop democracy in Burma.
- D. To consolidate friendship among all ethnic nationals in Burma.
- E. To safeguard world peace.
- F. To have friendly relations with all nations on the basis of equality.
- G. To practice an independent foreign policy.

3. Work programs

- A. To preserve and safeguard the sovereignty of Burma.
- B. To work for and build friendship and unity among all ethnic nationals.
- C. To be an active member of the United Nations.
- D. To pursue an independent economic system.
- E. To reform the present education system with the assistance of specialists and education experts.
- F. To foster and build Burmese culture in accordance with time.
- G. To establish relations with all nations, big and small, on the basis of equality and peaceful coexistence.

Youth Federation's Objectives, Programs Cited

*BK1410170788 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Press release No 4/88 of the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections]

[Text] 1. The following are extracts of the objectives and future programs of the People's Youth Federation, Burma, which has registered with the Commission for Holding Democratic Multiparty General Elections, and which has its headquarters at U Thet Aung Rubber Plantation, No 12 Ward, Hlaing Township, Rangoon Division:

2. Objectives

- A. To perpetuate genuine democracy and to enable today's youths to lead the country and the people with democracy in future.
- B. To nurture capable and good people based on democracy for the future of the country and to perpetuate the motherland's independence.
- C. To strive constantly for lasting unity among union nationalities.
- D. To remove oppression between race and class and to enable every person to enjoy benefits freely according to one's ability.

3. Programs

- A. Major program: To present information and to organize every citizen to comprehend the meaning of genuine democracy so as to enable them to construct a parliamentary democratic state.
- B. Supplementary program: To fight and crush internal and external destructive elements and enemies of genuine democracy and to fully and successfully establish a new multiparty democracy that will serve as a foundation for preventing the disintegration of the union.

Security Units Search Rangoon General Hospital
*BK1410163088 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 oct 88*

[Text] At 1420 today, our security units searched between the ceiling and the roof in rooms No 19 and No 20 in the cardiovascular wing of the Rangoon General Hospital and found seven carrying bags. One .38

(Pelcher) revolver and 3 shells, 33 .30 shells, 5 rounds of 7.62 shells, 3 pairs of monk robes, and civilian clothes for 15 to 20 persons were found and seized.

BBC Reports Blamed for Destabilizing Situation

*BK1410162588 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] Brigadier General Kyaw Ba, chairman of Kachin State Law and Order Restoration Council and commander of the Northern Military Command, met with Kachin State departmental officials, merchants, brokers, shop owners, local elders, and school teachers at 1000 today at Nanthida Hall in Myitkyina. At the meeting, he explained the appeal of Defense Forces Chief of Staff General Saw Maung to the monks, people, and members of the Defense Forces. He added that demonstrations and disturbances occurred in the country because of the economic difficulties caused by declining national production, rising consumption, irregular flow of commodities, and rising prices. On the other hand, the untrue reports broadcast by the BBC made the situation become so unstable that the State Law and Order Restoration Council had no choice but to take responsibility to control the situation.

He said, currently, efforts are being made to normalize operation of economic enterprises and to reduce prices to ease the people's food, clothing, and shelter needs and that traders, brokers, and shop owners are urged to cooperate and render assistance. He added that because of inveiglement by unscrupulous elements, some young students have gone to the jungle and urged that they be called back. He said the Defense Forces would not take action against them.

He said while the Defense Forces have taken responsibility for holding free and fair democratic multiparty elections, the people are urged to cooperate for the successful holding of elections. The meeting ended at 1300 after he replied to points raised by the people present at the meeting.

Students, Worker Return From KNU Insurgents

*BK1610081688 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Excerpts] Two students and one public servant, who fled to the KNU [Karen National Union] insurgents at the border because of undue concern that they would be arrested for taking part in the disturbances and demonstrations, left the insurgents because of difficulties and hardships and have now given themselves up at an army camp. [passage omitted]

According to the testimonies given by the three, they arrived in Moulmein from Rangoon 23 September, and reached Thay Baw Bo—a border camp of the KNU insurgents—on 29 September. They saw about 1,800 students and civilians, including 6 robed persons [Buddhist monks] and about 30 young girl students, at that

camp. These persons were living in temporary black-market stalls and huts without proper quarters, and on food spared by merchants in the other country engaging in the blackmarket trade.

They said they experienced difficulties in food because the KNU insurgents only supplied rice and pumpkin to the students and the other people. The insurgents wanted the students and the youths to be loyal to KNU and wanted them to join in the attacks against the camps of the Defense Forces. Measures were also taken to prevent them from fleeing the camps. Presently, although many students wanted to return to their parents, they did not because they fear they would be arrested on their return and also because they had no money for the fare back home. Hence they have continued to take refuge with the Karen insurgents.

The three of them, however, secretly crossed over to (Maw Lichai) area inside the other country on 2 October, sold their clothes, and made plans to return to Burma. When they arrived in Mae Sot village from (Maw Lichai), they found 135 people, including 6 women, at a monastery.

On 3 October, a so-called student leader, Maung Maung Kyaw, gave a speech. The people at Mae Sot monastery were supervised by someone called Peter and five members of his group. The students were prevented from, and warned not to visit Mae Sot so that they would not learn the truth. We, they said, learned about the true stand of the Defense Forces from a devotee visiting the monastery and felt encouraged. They left for Myawadi where they were looked after by the army camp and later sent to Pa-an.

They were well fed and taken care of by the frontline 44th Light Infantry Division headquarters and were sent safely home by a (?convoy) heading for Rangoon.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Offers To Open Talks With Rivals

Offer Likely To Be Rejected

BK1610081488 Hong Kong AFP in English 0744 GMT
16 Oct 88

[By Mervin Nambiar]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 16 (AFP)—An offer by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to open peace talks will be spurned by his political rivals bent on the premier's ouster, analysts said Sunday.

They said former Trade Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and his ally, Musa Hitam, were also unlikely to accept an invitation by Dr. Mahathir to join his New United Malays National Organisation (UMNO).

Diplomats said Dr. Mahathir's offer Saturday to open talks to reunite Malaysia's ethnic Malay majority reflected growing pressure on the premier to heal the rift that has split the ruling Malay elite.

"But I don't see progress while Dr. Mahathir clings to his New UMNO which Tengku Razaleigh says has no semblance to the original UMNO," an Asian diplomat said.

The New UMNO was formed after the original UMNO was ruled unlawful by the high court in February over a polls dispute between the Mahathir and Razaleigh camps.

Mr. Razaleigh and Mr. Musa say the new UMNO constitution readied for adoption at a general assembly on October 28 will keep Dr. Mahathir in power indefinitely through a balloting system that will give him a sizeable head start over challengers.

Mr. Razaleigh's aides say the former trade minister will continue to wage his campaign for revival of the original UMNO and its democratic traditions they call "the Spirit of '46" that led to independence from Britain in 1957.

Speaking in Muar town, 200 kilometres (125 miles) south of here, Saturday Mr. Razaleigh said he would not join the New UMNO because "the party is not accepted by the Malays."

"Even if I am reborn I will not join the party," the English-language daily THE STAR quoted Mr. Razaleigh as saying.

Mr. Razaleigh called for a congress of all Malay representatives to discuss the question of Malay unity, adding he did not think discussions between him and Dr. Mahathir would yield much.

Analysts said Dr. Mahathir has come under pressure from within his new UMNO to seek a reconciliation with his rivals after his National Front led by UMNO suffered defeat in a parliamentary by-election in Johore Baru town in August.

The defeat shocked UMNO's 12 partners in the National Front coalition, particularly the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) which fears the split in ethnic Malay votes would doom its electoral prospects.

Mr. Razaleigh's hand could be further strengthened if his faction won a by-election for a seat in the Johore State Legislature, analysts said.

Voters in the small rural Parit Raja constituency are scheduled to go to the polls on Thursday.

Mr. Musa claimed in Hong Kong last week that Dr. Mahathir was planning snap polls to reassert his authority and would opt for emergency rule if he failed to win the general election.

Dr. Mahathir called Mr. Musa's claim "entirely baseless" Saturday describing it as "false, mischievous and designed to destabilise the country."

UMNO Officials Comment

*BK1610151788 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service
in Malay 1430 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[Text] The UMNO [United Malays National Organization] deputy president, Mr Ghafar Baba, has explained that the party's decision to open its doors to all Malays does not mean it is giving in to pressure from certain quarters. He said that the issue of pressure did not arise. The decision was made after listening to public views.

Mr Ghafar, who is also deputy prime minister, made the statement following a closed meeting with UMNO members from the Jasin Division, Melaka, this evening. He reiterated that the matter accorded top priority is Malay unity, which is not only the basis of their strength but is also in the nation's interests.

Meanwhile, UMNO Secretary General Datuk Mohamed Rahmat denied views that the UMNO's readiness to negotiate with several former leaders was merely a ploy. Datuk Mohamed made the denial to newsmen after opening a free medical care camp sponsored by the Rotary Club in Gelang Patah. He said that the negotiations offer was sincerely made after considering nationwide public opinion on Malay interests.

Last night, the Supreme Council made decisions which, among other things, invited Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam to hold negotiations with Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir and Mr Ghafar Baba.

Mahathir Says Musa Hitam Statements 'Baseless'

*BK1510132988 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television
Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir, who is also the president of UMNO [United Malays National Organization], told reporters at the Putra World Trade Center today that statements made by Datuk Musa are totally baseless.

[Begin Mahathir recording] We regard the statements by Datuk Musa as totally baseless and we are very disappointed because the statements made by him will have an adverse effect, particularly on the investment climate and trade in the country. His claim that a snap election will be held within a year will create a year-long state of uncertainty among businessmen and this will not help in any way to improve the economic performance in our country. We are very unhappy over these baseless statements which can be considered as mischievous. They should have not been made by a person who is responsible toward his nation. They are totally baseless. The allegation that the authorities will deliberately create chaos through the setting up of a martial law government is likewise both

baseless and mischievous. These statements are aimed at subverting national stability, and causing concern among foreign and local investors, and also foreign tourists. The country's political and economic situation will also be destabilized as a result of these statements. We are taking a serious view of these deliberate statements. They are baseless and are designed to create unrest among the people. As we all know, the Malaysian Chinese Association has stated that it has no intention of excluding itself from Barisan Nasional [National Front] and statements suggesting such a thing have been made with the intention of destabilizing the political situation within the country. Ours is a democratic nation in which we can voice our opinions freely and no action will be taken. We are only disappointed that there are persons who do not place the nation's interests first but who have purposely given a distorted picture concerning our nation's stability and the investment climate within the country. [end recording]

Musa Hitam Comments

*BK1510133188 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television
Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] In Johor, Datuk Musa Hitam has admitted making statements concerning three issues. According to a BERNAMA report, the issue of holding a snap election is included in the statements. The former deputy prime minister also said there is a great possibility that a state of emergency will be declared if Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir feels that his party is losing.

He also said that the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] disagreed with the holding of a snap election because if such a decision is taken, the MCA will definitely lose.

He made the statement at the Foreign Correspondents Club in Hong Kong.

VOMD Sees Obstacles To Trade With PRC

*BK1410062388 (Clandestine) Voice of Malayan
Democracy in Malay 1215 GMT 13 Oct 88*

[“News report”: “Chinese-Malaysian Trade Continues To Face Obstacles”]

[Text] For reasons widely known, our country and the PRC signed a bilateral trade agreement only on 1 April this year. Even though trade and industry circles in our country expressed hope that the Kuala Lumpur ruling regime would ease its travel restrictions to the PRC in line with the signing of the trade agreement to enable bilateral trade to proceed smoothly, their hope was never fulfilled. Speaking in Parliament last July on the continued ban of political gatherings, Prime Minister Mahathir, who is concurrently the home affairs minister, also spoke on the issue of promoting trade with the PRC as well as relations between peoples of the two countries. He adamantly said his government had no plans to change existing travel regulations to the PRC, in other words, he would not ease travel restrictions to that country.

In this connection, observers pointed out that as long as the ruling regime is still reluctant to remove restrictions for people to visit each other freely, bilateral trade relations will never make any progress. Once the trade agreement had been already signed, shipping and air services agreement between Malaysia and the PRC soon followed. Those who monitor trade relations between Malaysia and the PRC pointed out that only after the Kuala Lumpur ruling regime agreed to lift discriminatory regulations, including taxes imposed on goods imported from the PRC, could the bilateral trade agreement be officially signed in Beijing on 1 April. As soon as the agreement was signed, [words indistinct] provided more facilities to the exports of Malaysian goods. For instance, the tax imposed on Malaysia's main commodities, including rubber, palm oil, and cocoa has been reduced from 30 to 20 percent; tax on plywood from 17 to 12 percent; while tax on timber and [words indistinct] is also greatly reduced. The tax reduction is aimed not only at making Malaysian goods more competitive, but also at reducing Malaysia's trade deficit with the PRC.

In view of the excellent opportunity, many people in trade and industry circles did their best to promote trade relations with the PRC with a view to capturing that country's market. However, the Kuala Lumpur ruling authorities were reluctant to ease restrictions which shackle the people so the opportunity to expand trade was wasted.

Citizens in our country who wish to visit the PRC must obtain clearance from the Home Affairs Ministry as well as the Trade and Industry Ministry. According to statistics released by the authorities, between 1980 and May this year, the Kuala Lumpur ruling authorities had approved only 32,384 applications to do business with, seek medical treatment, or visit relatives in the PRC. The number of the approved applications is negligible compared with that of other ASEAN countries, except Brunei.

Our citizens have charged that it is not easy even for persons over 60 to obtain clearance from the authorities for medical treatment or family visits in the PRC. Trade and industry circles also charged that even after the signing of the trade agreement on 1 April, our country's businessmen still could not freely do business with or travel to the PRC at anytime as could their colleagues in neighboring countries. As in the past, these businessmen are only allowed to participate in trade fairs held in the provincial capitals of the PRC. They must also apply for clearance well in advance.

What is more disappointing is the fact that excellent trade opportunities are snatched up by businessmen from neighboring countries while our businessmen are still waiting for clearance.

Observers believe that Mahathir has no plans to ease travel restrictions to the PRC. This means that bilateral trade relations will never flourish and bilateral relations never improve.

Cambodia

SPK Version of SRV Pullout 'Communiqué'

BK1610120188 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1113 GMT 16 Oct 88

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Oct 16—The Ministry of Defence of the People's Republic of Kampuchea released here today a communique saying that foreign observers and mass media envoys are welcomed to witness the pullout of the Vietnamese Army volunteers from Kampuchea this year.

The communique reads:

"The People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on May 26, 1988 made a decision on the 7th pull-out of 50,000 Vietnamese Army volunteers together with the command of the Vietnamese volunteer army in Kampuchea this year.

"Since the command of the Vietnamese volunteer army and its adjutant units were pulled out in June this year, a majority [of the] remaining Vietnamese troops have subsequently repatriated."

"In furtherance of the above-mentioned decision, the Defence Ministries of the PRK and the SRV have an agreement the following points: [sentence as received]

From now to December this year, the rest of the 50,000 Vietnamese Army volunteers will continue to repatriate through land and water routes.

The PRK and the SRV welcome representatives from all countries, international organizations, news reporters and cameramen, and those who are interested in the Kampuchean problem to come to Kampuchea to witness the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

Thai Intrusions in Week Ending 1 October

BK1210052388 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0424 GMT
12 October 88

[Text] Phnom Penh, 11 October (SPK)—During the week ending 1 October, Thai F-5's and L-19's made three flights over O Smach and Chan Kraham, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, between 2 and 4 km inside Cambodian territory.

On land, Thai artillery fired about 50 shells daily into some areas of Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Provinces.

At sea, Thai vessels intruded nine times into Cambodia's territorial waters between 7 and 19 nautical miles off Kaoh Tang, Kaoh Kong, and Poulo Wai islands.

17 October 1988

Meanwhile, the Cambodian border guards, during their mopping-up operations, put out of action 217 intruders, including 63 killed, 58 captured, and 96 surrendered; and seized 151 assorted firearms together with a quantity of other war materiel.

VNA Group Arrives for 2-Week Working Visit

*BK1310113788 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1102 GMT 13 Oct 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 13--A group of the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA) led by Dang Kien, head of the foreign service department, arrived here this morning for a fortnight working visit.

The visit is made in furtherance of a cooperation agreement between the two news agencies for the 1988-90 period.

While here, the VNA officials will exchange experiences with the SPK leadership in the improvement of the information work and give lectures on journalism, especially news reporting for home and foreign readers.

Hun Sen Visits Koh Kong Province 8-10 October

*BK1310070588 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 12 Oct 88*

[Text] To mark our nation's traditional All-Souls Day, Comrade Hun Sen, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of foreign affairs, visited cadres, personnel, workers, and the Armed Forces in Koh Kong Province from 8-10 October.

At a get-together during the meeting to sum up the military achievements in Koh Kong Province, Comrade Hun Sen informed the participants about the development of the Cambodian revolution, the international and regional situation, and particularly the framework for the settlement of the Cambodian problem set up after the informal meeting in Jakarta. Comrade Hun Sen denounced the United Nations for accepting the credentials of the Pol Pot clique during the past years, pointing out that such an activity will only hinder the United Nations' role in the search for a solution to the Cambodian problem and runs counter to the present common trend that requires the expulsion of the Pol Pot clique from the United Nations and the trial of this criminal clique at the international tribunal.

Comrade Hun Sen welcomed all activities of the 12 Nobel Prize laureates and many other personages and international forums in demanding the expulsion of the Pol Pot clique from the United Nations.

Concerning his coming third meeting with Samdech Sihanouk, Comrade Hun Sen expressed optimism over the possibilities of reaching unanimity particularly on measures to prevent the Pol Pot clique from returning to power in Cambodia.

Speaking on the Cambodian-Thai relations, Comrade Hun Sen reiterated that we want to have good neighborly relations and, primarily, to turn the border between the two countries into a border of peace and friendship. Comrade Hun Sen expressed the hope that the latest developments of the new situation will contribute to the search for a reasonable solution to the Cambodian problem and, primarily, to reaching an agreement on the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, the prevention of the return to power of the Pol Pot clique, and the end to the provision of sanctuaries and aid to the opposition Cambodian forces, which is the first step toward resolving other problems.

Ney Pena Marks Party Paper's Third Anniversary

*BK1310093988 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Oct 88*

[Summary] Ney Pena, member of the Political Bureau of the KPRP Central Committee, on 12 October presided over a ceremony to mark the third founding anniversary of the party paper PRACHEACHON. Speaking on the occasion, Som Kimsuor, member of the party Central Committee and PRACHEACHON editor in chief, highlighted the paper's development in the past 3 years with 312 timely published issues. Citation certificates of the Council of Ministers were awarded to various outstanding units and individuals.

In his speech, Ney Pena called on all cadres and workers to show lively activities on the paper's pages and added "in ideology, journalists should fight vigorously by being sincere in telling the truth in the paper to be worthy of being the party's reporters in the new regime."

Meeting Sets UNICEF Cooperation for 1989-91

*BK1510070088 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] On 11 and 12 October at the office of the Health Ministry, a meeting was held between the Health Ministry and UNICEF to review cooperation results from 1986 to 1988 and discuss the program for 1989 to 1991.

The 2-day meeting paid great attention to various reports on the cooperation and discussed past results of the bilateral cooperation and shortcomings due to various factors. The meeting also intensely discussed these shortcomings and set up a new cooperation program for 1989-91, focusing on primary hygiene, vaccination against six diseases for children, mother and child care, and prevention against epidemic diseases in localities.

Report on Son Sann's Address at United Nations

BK1510045988 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 14 Oct 88

[“Report” on the address by His Excellency Son Sann, prime minister of the CGDK, at the 43d Session of the UN General Assembly]

[Excerpt] On 5 October, His Excellency Son Sann, prime minister of the CGDK, addressed the 43d session of the

UN General Assembly. The main content of his address is as follows:

After expressing his warmest greetings, on behalf of the Cambodian people, the CGDK, and in his own name, to the president of the 43d UN General Assembly, and his heartiest thanks to the president of the 43d session of the UN General Assembly as well as to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, His Excellency Son Sann stated:

It is 10 years now, since the Vietnamese aggressor troops invaded and occupied Cambodia on 25 December 1978. Since the creation of the CGDK in 1982, the chairman of the DK, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has vigorously denounced the infernal acts committed by the Vietnamese aggressor troops to the detriment of the miserable Cambodian people.

His Excellency Son Sann said if Vietnam is not sincere about solving the Cambodian problem through dialogue with the CGDK and halting its delaying tactics [to delay the troop withdrawal from Cambodia], a political solution to the issue certainly cannot be found. To obstruct the political process of settling the Cambodian problem, Vietnam has used all manner of maneuvers, linking the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Cambodia with the question of preventing the return to power of the Khmer Rouge and the question of complete cessation of aid to CGDK forces.

He said the current situation in Cambodia is caused by the Vietnamese aggressor troops' invasion and occupation of the country, and our foremost wish, like the wish of the UN resolutions on the Cambodian issue, still remains the complete withdrawal of Vietnam's troops from Cambodia, including the officially recognized troops as well as those in disguise. As for other matters, they are Cambodia's purely internal affairs which should be solved by the Cambodian parties themselves. The settlement of the Cambodian problem is unequivocally specified in the resolutions annually adopted by the UN since 1979 which also prescribed the Cambodian people's right to self-determination and the organization of general and free elections without any pressure or coercion.

He said the very peaceful settlement of Cambodia's problem can be possible only on the following conditions:

1. The withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia should be made not only unilaterally by Vietnam itself but on the framework of a joint agreement reached through negotiations with other parties, under international control and within a specific timeframe.
2. The Phnom Penh and the DK regimes should be dissolved.
3. A provisional quadripartite government of national reconciliation should be formed.
4. An international control committee belonging to the United Nations or other international committees and other necessary measures should be established.

5. Truly free and general elections should be organized under international control.

His excellency added that peace in Cambodia should be in fact restored through genuine national reconciliation based on equality of all reconciled political parties and the respect for the basic freedom of humanity in accordance with a liberal democracy, not to isolate and not to eliminate anyone at all.

The provisional four-party government of national reconciliation is a national harmonious government in charge of organizing free and general elections under international control.

Following an agreement on the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, an international conference, with participation of all countries concerned and the five member countries of the UN Security Council, as well as the UN secretary general, should be convened to adopt all necessary measures to guarantee the above-mentioned agreement and Cambodia's independence and neutrality, and to prevent the eventuality of the Vietnamese troops' return [to Cambodia] and the unlawful seizure of power by force by any of the Cambodian parties.

To normalize the situation and to restore peace, security, and justice in Cambodia, the full withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Cambodia is an absolutely necessary condition. However, to build up confidence, I would like to propose that the Vietnamese troop withdrawal should be implemented in the framework of an agreement and negotiations, and under international control. National reconciliation should be carried out by setting up a provisional quadripartite government. The national reconciliation government should be formed on a new basis because the CGDK cannot accept the communist Vietnamese regime in Phnom Penh as a foundation.

Afterward, His Excellency Son Sann expressed, on behalf of the Cambodian people, profound gratitude to his majesty the king of Thailand for his generosity toward the Cambodian refugees and to the Thai Government for authorizing the displaced Cambodian people to live in camps located along the border.

Along with this, his excellency also thanked all the friendly countries for their constant, valuable, and multifaceted assistance and support to the CGDK and the entire Cambodian people in their struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors for national liberation. [passage omitted]

Khieu Samphan Departs New York 11 October
BK1610021888 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] On 11 October, Khieu Samphan, vice president of the DK in charge of foreign affairs, who was attending the 43d session of the UN General Assembly, left New York and returned to the mother country.

During his stay in New York for nearly 4 weeks, Vice President Khieu Samphan had talks with several foreign ministers and chiefs of delegations from various countries. He exchanged views with those personalities on a number of issues of common interest.

Vice President Khieu Samphan briefed the foreign ministers and chiefs of delegations about the development of the Cambodian people's struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors, and outlined the Hanoi authorities' diplomatic gambit aimed at confusing international opinion and misleading people to accept their acts of aggression against and occupation of Cambodia once and for all.

Son Sann, prime minister of the CGDK and chief of the DK delegation attending the UN General Assembly, saw Vice President Khieu Samphan off at the airport along with (Yu Meng), deputy permanent representative of the PRC to the UN; Ambassador Thiounn Prasith, DK permanent representative to the UN; Ambassadors Chan Youran and Hing Un; as well as other DK mission staff and members of the DK delegation.

DK Army Seizes SRV Artillery Post in Samlot
BK1410013588 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] On 8 October, our National Army attacked and destroyed a Vietnamese artillery position west of O Rot Kroh, on Samlot battlefield [Battambang Province]. We killed four Vietnamese enemy soldiers, wounded four others, and destroyed some ammunition and war materiel. We seized 4 artillery pieces, including 2 122-mm canons, a 76.2-mm cannon, 120 122-mm shells, 150 76.2-mm shells, and some war materiel.

After our attack and control of this position, our National Army turned and fired these four heavy artillery pieces at a Vietnamese position at O Reang Khen and at the Vietnamese divisional command in Samlot District all day long. The shelling caused great confusion among the Vietnamese at the two positions.

DK Army Attack on Battambang Reported
PK0910003488 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 8 Oct 88

[Text] Our National Army fired two 107-mm rockets into Battambang provincial town on 2 October, killing and wounding a number of the Vietnamese enemies.

Following the attack, there was great panic in the town.

Laos

Delegation Leaves for Jakarta Conference

BK1510112388 Vientiane KPL in English
0918 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Vientiane, October 15 (OANA-KPL)—A delegation of the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs led by its deputy-minister, Soulivong Phasithidet, on September 13 [date as received], left here for the conference of the coordination team work on the Kampuchean issue to be held in Jakarta of Indonesia on October 17-19.

The team work has been set up for the first time by the decision of the informal meeting held recently in Bogor of Indonesia. The conference will further consult on matters of seeking ways for the peaceful political solution to the Kampuchean issue.

Deputy Foreign Minister Speaks at UN Session

BK1510121088 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Souban Salitthilat, head of the LPDR delegation, delivered a speech at the 43d UN General Assembly session on the morning of 10 October. The major points of his speech are as follows:

The situation in Southeast Asia is evolving in line with the global trend of seeking to settle conflicts through meetings and negotiations. For this reason, following the PRK Government's statement on its national reconciliation policy, Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, and Prince Sihanouk held two important meetings in Paris. Moreover, Chairman Hun Sen, representing the PRK Government at the Jakarta informal meeting, put forth a seven-point proposal aimed at seeking a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

The LPDR highly appraised the success of the meeting and strongly supports the overall view presented at the meeting, which called for a political solution to the Cambodian problem so as to create a peaceful, sovereign, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia on the basis of national reconciliation, respect for the Cambodian people's right to self-determination, and withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers from Cambodia together with the prevention of a return to power by the genocidal Pol Pot clique, the guarantee of an end to interference in Cambodia's internal affairs by foreign countries, and the end of military assistance to Khmer Rouge forces. To strengthen and expand the success of the Jakarta informal meeting, Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk agreed to hold another meeting in Paris at the end of 1988.

The LPDR praises the new initiatives of the Nonaligned Movement in holding a meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe, to discuss the Cambodian problem and appoint a special Nonaligned Movement committee.

17 October 1988

The Lao Government has been adhering to the basic principle of settling conflicts between any two countries through meetings and negotiations. We firmly believe that based on the Principles of Bandung, ASEAN's Kuala Lumpur Declaration of 1971, and the Jakarta informal meeting in late July, the countries in this region will hold normal consultations so as to bring their attitudes closer to each other and increase mutual understanding for the purpose of turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, friendship, and cooperation in response to the just aspirations of the people in each country.

It is unfortunate that the Lao-Thai border dispute has not yet been settled in this way. The two rounds of talks that were held in Bangkok and Vientiane in March of this year have not yet yielded any concrete achievements. After the election of the new Thai Government, an exchange of visits between the two countries' delegations was made in a bid to create mutual understanding. We are of the opinion that the time has come for the two countries to resume talks as proposed earlier by the Lao side. The LPDR Government itself is always ready to take every action to achieve a quick, comprehensive settlement of the Lao-Thai border dispute.

Military Delegation Leaves for Thailand

*BK1710054988 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0500 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] A military delegation of the LPDR led by General Sisavat Keobounphan, chief of the LPA General Staff, left Vientiane this morning [17 October] for a 3-day official visit to the Kingdom of Thailand at the invitation of General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Army commander and acting military supreme commander.

During the visit, Gen Sisavat Keobounphan will hold consultations with Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut and exchange views on relations between the two countries' armed forces. He will also pay a courtesy call on Chatchai Chunhawan, prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, and visit a number of economic bases.

Accompanying Gen Sisavat Keobounphan during the visit to Thailand are Brigadier General Thonglai Kommasit, first deputy director of LPA General Political Department; Brig Gen Savai Sai-gnasena, chief of the Office of the National Defense Ministry; Brig Gen Bouannian Kham-ouan, deputy chief of the LPA General Logistics Department; Brig Gen Somlak Phommavong, assistant chief of the Office of the National Defense Ministry; Brig Gen Phonsai Chaleunsouk, Air Force commander; Colonel Sathian Kesonsi, assistant chief of LPA General Staff; Col Somboun Sisavat, assistant chief of LPA General Staff and head of the Joint Military Committee of the Lao side; Lieutenant Colonel (Phouvon Keobounlom), chief of the LPA General Technical Department; and Lt Col (Si Inthavong), chief of the Foreign Relations Department of the Ministry of National Defense, and other 17 assisting cadres.

Seeing the delegation off at Wattai Airport were Major General Choummali Sai-gnason, first deputy minister of the Ministry of National Defense; Maj Gen Osakan Thammave, deputy minister of the Ministry of National Defense and chief of the LPA General Political Department; and a number of senior military officers. Mrs Prathuang Rotphong, interim charge d'affaires of the Kingdom of Thailand to Laos, was also present at the airport.

Academics Team Returns From Thailand

*BK1410133688 Vientiane KPL in English
0919 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] Vientiane, October 14 (KPL)—A team of Lao academics led by Hiam Phommachan, vice-president of the Lao Committee for Peace, Solidarity and Friendship With Other Nations, on October 12 returned home from Thailand. The purpose of the visit was to give lectures aiming at promoting and enhancing the Lao-Thai relations of good neighbours.

The Lao lecturers spoke in both Bangkok and the north-eastern Thailand town of Khon Kaen. Issues discussed by lecturers of both sides were the Lao-Thai traditional friendship relations, bilateral trade, agricultural technology, rural development, religion.

LPRP Delegation Departs for Phnom Penh

*BK1210104588 Vientiane KPL in English
0909 GMT 12 Oct 88*

[Text] Vientiane, October 12 (KPL)—Sisavat Keobounphan, political bureau member of the LPRP CC, secretary of the party committee, mayor of Vientiane Prefecture, and his delegation left here yesterday for the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The delegation is to attend the first congress of the party committee of Phnom Penh due to be held on October 12.

FRG State Minister To Visit 15-18 October

*BK1310102288 Vientiane KPL in English
0901 GMT 13 Oct 88*

[“Press Release on FRG Minister for Foreign Affairs’ Visit”—KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, October 13 (OANA-KPL)—The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has issued here a press release. It disclosed that in response to the invitation of the Government of the LPDR, a delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) led by Helmut Schafer, state minister for foreign affairs of the FRG, will pay an official cordial visit to the Lao PDR on October 15-18, 1988.

Philippines

Reportage on Agreement Reached on U.S. Bases

Aquino Makes Announcement

HK1710012788 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] President Aquino announced that the Philippines and the United States have reached an agreement on the terms for the continued stay of the American bases in the Philippines until 1991. She said the bases agreement will be signed tomorrow at 3 pm in Washington by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. The president also said Mr Manglapus will make an announcement on the details after the signing of the agreement. The Philippines and the United States began the bases review in April this year, but the negotiations bogged down many times because of the Philippines' insistence on increased rental and the United States' refusal to agree on the amount demanded.

Aquino Awaits Manglapus' Report

HK1710084188 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0700 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] President Aquino stated that she would wait for the latest report from Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus before giving her views on the agreement reached concerning the maintenance of foreign military bases in the country for the next 2 years.

The president was asked whether she was satisfied with the result of negotiations on the review of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]- U.S. military bases treaty.

[Begin Aquino recording in English] I will wait until all the details are laid out and expressed by Secretary Manglapus. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus confirmed that the United States will pay \$480 million each year for the maintenance of Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base in the country until the year 1991. At a news conference held in Washington, D.C., the foreign affairs secretary also claimed that the United States will support a bond program that will help alleviate the country's debt repayment program.

The agreement reached at the end of the bases treaty review will be signed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz tomorrow.

Benigno on Bases Accord

HK1710084988 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0700 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Gabby Salcedo reports from Malacanang:

[Begin recording] [Salcedo] President Corazon Aquino has refused to comment on the signing of the Military

Bases Agreement review between the United States and the Philippines. We learned this from Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno. He said, however, that the president would give her official reaction in a radio-television broadcast after the agreement is signed in Washington. Here are additional reports from Secretary Benigno after the just-concluded meeting between the president and U.S. Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the U.S. Armed Forces.

[Benigno in English] Well, two things. First is your question—how many questions—on the report from Wahington about the impending signature of the United States-Philippines on the bases. Now, the president prefers not to answer these questions for the plain and simple reason that the agreement has yet to be signed. And she will only issue a comment, a formal statement, either on TV or a formal statement to you after the signing of the agreement. So first they announce in Washington, certainly by Secretary Manglapus on behalf of the Philippines after the signing, and (?rebound) over to Manila, where the president certainly will issue a statement. I understand that the agreement will be signed at 2:00 am after midnight, Manila time. So considering that we are in the lapse of [word indistinct] in the city of Manila at that particular time, we will not be able—there are no newspapers functioning, nor radio, nor the TV. So you have to be patient. Her statement on this matter will come after the signing of the agreement.

Now with regards to the 45-minute meeting with Admiral Crowe, I don't know exactly what Admiral Crowe told you. I understand that he didn't tell you very much except something in [word indistinct]. But since I cannot speak for him, I cannot mention, except in very general detail what he told the president in that 45-minute conversation. All I can say is that they took up three topics, the main topic being that of the communist insurgency, the second being that of the U.S. presidential elections, the third informal conversation on the art of governing a country.

Now on insurgency, the president started off the formal part of the conversation by saying that her government has made substantial headway in the fight against the communists and other insurrections. Admiral Crowe said: From what I have gathered during my stay here, I agree with your assessment.

President Aquino explained that the headway in the fight against communist insurgency was largely because the military today is getting tremendous support from the civilian sector, which was not there before.

At this point, General de Villa was asked for his comment, and Gen de Villa said that things are looking good, and he agreed with the president that civilian support for the military had improved tremendously and is very much better now. [end recording]

Enrile Comments on Accord
*HK1710092788 Manila Manila Broadcasting
Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] Some members of Senate refrained from commenting on the scheduled signing of the Military Bases Agreement by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. One of them is Senator Leticia Shahani Ramos, chairperson of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

[Begin Shahani recording in English in progress] ...very minimal. What took place in Washington is something I do not know about. What is this debt swap that took place? What is the formula that goes with it? What are the soft components? How does that link up with the Philippine aid plan? I think it best and fair that we wait for Secretary Manglapus to make his report to the nation and to the Congress. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile raised the issue that the agreement to be signed by Shultz and Manglapus should be reviewed and ratified first by the Philippine Senate.

[Begin Enrile recording in English] As I was saying when I was asked the same question, that it is very difficult to react to something the details of which are unknown. Now there is one thing I would like to consider, and that is whether or not this agreement would require the approval of the Senate. This is an arguable point, that it should be subjected to the scrutiny of the Senate and approved by it, because of the provision now of the Constitution that all international treaties and agreements entered into by the Republic of the Philippines must be approved and ratified by the Senate. [end recording]

Enrile was also asked whether the agreement was already a treaty.

[Begin Enrile recording in English] Well, the Constitution talks of not only treaties, but agreements, international agreements. Now I am sure this cannot be considered less than an international agreement. There are rights and obligations emanating from it which would grant benefits and [word indistinct] the Republic of the Philippines. [end recording]

Senators Express 'Disappointment'
*HK1710090788 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] The country's legislators expressed disappointment over the Philippines' failure to obtain its initial demands in exchange for maintenance of the U.S. bases for 2 more years.

The Partido ng Bayan [PNB—People's Party] strongly condemned the agreement reached between the Philippines and the United States. According to PNB spokesman Fidel Agcaoili, the provisions of the agreement constituted a sellout. He said that Manglapus should not have linked the maintenance of the bases in the country with the debt issue. The PNB reiterated its opposition to the maintenance of U.S. military bases in the country and demanded that the contents of the agreement be made public.

Meanwhile, Senator Ernesto Macea and Vice President Salvador Laurel criticized Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus for signing the agreement without prior consultation with Congress. According to these two men, it would appear that only the views of Malacanang and the Department of Foreign Affairs were taken into consideration in the negotiations process as the Congress was not consulted.

Senators Ernesto Macea and John Osmena both described the new agreement on compensation for retention of U.S. bases in the country until 1991 as a big disappointment.

[Begin recording in English] [Macea] To me, this is a confirmation of the fact that it seems this administration is not ready to stand up to Washington. I had hoped that they were serious when they said that the \$1.2 billion was an irreducible minimum, but it seems that we are getting very much less. This disappointing compensation package strengthens the case of all of those who are against the renewal or extension of the treaty allowing U.S. military bases in the country.

[Osmena] We did not get what we wanted to, which is a \$1.2 billion package. And I think this is for lack of appreciation on the part of the United States government on the needs of the Philippines and how these needs are related to the security of the bases. [end recording]

In this connection, Senator Macea speaks of the necessity to adopt Senate Resolution No 126 submitted by Senate majority floor leader Orly Mercado. The resolution states that the Aquino government should notify the U.S. of the Philippines' intention to terminate the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases agreement in 1991.

[Begin Macea recording in English in progress] ...that the executive department serve formal notice pursuant to the present agreement of a 1-year notice to the U.S. Government so that we will not unnecessarily extend the treaty or present agreement, just in case there is no agreement for 1992 and beyond. [end recording]

Even though the compensation agreed upon is twice the amount the Philippines has received for the last 5 years, Senator Osmena said that it was time that the United States realizes that the amount they pay will ultimately benefit them too.

[Begin Osmena recording in English in progress] ...and also that such a compensation will benefit them, because if this country is plunged into a crisis of poverty and if the security of the bases is imperiled by the insurgency that is going to be fueled and is being fueled by poverty, then their bases will not be worth anything to them. So whatever assistance they give us in the form of compensation and used in our soil for their own strategic, global interests will rebound to their benefit as well. [end recording]

Both Macea and Osmena concurred that the signing of the treaty was another case of the executive branch not consulting with the legislative branch.

[Begin recording in English] [Osmena] I will agree with some of my colleagues who are bewailing a lack of consultation. I think this has been a problem not only with the bases, but it has been a problem with the antinuclear bill in Congress—we never found out what they were thinking about. It is the problem with the barangay elections. It is a problem with a lot of irritants that are going on between the Senate and the executive department.

[Macea] I had thought that there should have been some consultations with the Senate before this is finalized. Senator Shahani and I are members of the review panel but apparently, with Secretary Manglapus in Washington, the matter was decided exclusively between him and the president. [end recording]

Meanwhile, we have the views of Senator Aquilino Pimentel Jr:

[Begin Pimentel recording in English] That agreement is better than the existing military bases agreement. It does not, however, have any bearing on the future of the bases, whether the bases are to be removed or not. That is something not included in the present negotiations. [end recording]

Adm Crowe Comments on Agreement

HK1710085188 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 1000 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Admiral William J. Crowe, chief of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the agreement on the military bases would be of great advantage to the stability of the region. Crowe met with Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos earlier today. He also said the signing of the treaty would pave the way for further talks on the extension of U.S. bases in the country after 1991.

Reactions to Bases Accord

HK1710032388 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE
in English 17 Oct 88 pp 1, 6

[Reports from J. F. Fortuna, P. Lustre, and R. Bundang]

[Text] Various sectors polled by the GLOBE yesterday had mixed, mostly critical, reaction to reports that the Philippines and the United States have reached an agreement on the last years of the lease of American military bases in the Philippines.

Senate foreign relations committee chairman Leticia Ramos-Shahani said that the \$418-million cash component of the base compensation package was "short" of the original demand of \$1.2 billion.

However, she expressed satisfaction that an agreement has been concluded after months of negotiations and acrimonious debate.

Sen. Wigberto Tanada, the main sponsor of the bill banning nuclear weapons in the country, said that the most important issue in the negotiations is the nuclear issue, and not only compensation.

"It is not enough to provide sufficient compensation, but an assurance that the United States would respect the constitutional provision banning nuclear weapons," Tanada said.

"I don't think it is enough to compensate when the threats of nuclear destruction and derogation of national sovereignty are still there because of the presence of nuclear weapons in the country," he added.

At the House of Representatives, Rep. Gualberto Lumauig (LDP [Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino—Struggle of Philippine Democrats]-Ifugao) of the foreign relations committee said the Washington agreement was a "welcome news" because it would provide the country compensation higher than the \$180 million it has received annually since 1983.

"It is something encouraging," Lumauig said, adding that the question of extension or termination must be touched in the future.

Other reactions:

Assistant Minority Floor Leader Salvador Escudero III demanded full disclosure of all the components in the economic package agreed in Washington.

"For all we know, there might be some hidden agenda included in the deal or that some old items were included to the detriment of the country," Escudero said.

Like Senator Shahani, he also demanded that Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus report to the nation on the details of the agreement.

In Olongapo City, Mayor Richard Gordon belittled the impact on his constituents of the reported economic package agreed in Washington.

Gordon, whose city hosts America's largest U.S. naval base outside U.S. territory, said that past U.S. aid for the bases have not filtered down to the base communities.

"Records show that aid has not filtered down to the countryside and the Aquino government has violated agreements mandating that portions of the economic support fund should be allotted for socio-economic amelioration," Gordon said.

Cause-oriented organizations described the agreement in Washington as a "sell-out."

Fidel V. Agcaoili of the Partido ng Bayan said that Manglapus should not have agreed to link the issue of foreign debt to the bases.

Agcaoili said the two issues are entirely separate and linking them in the negotiations would weaken the Philippine position.

He also said that Manglapus should not have allowed the talks to be held in Washington for it considerably weakened the leverage of the Philippines.

Zenaida Uy of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan said that the announcement in Washington comes as "no surprise to the Filipino people."

It is most likely, she said, that U.S. State Secretary George Shultz and Assistant Secretary Michael Armacost may have warned President Aquino that the United States would withdraw political support if the bases agreement were not signed.

Bases Treaty Called 'Betrayal'

HK1710100588 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Cause-oriented groups criticized the scheduled signing by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement.

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan [Bayan—New Nationalist Alliance] stated that the negotiations held in Manila were just a farce. Here is the view of Bayan official Ed Santualya:

[Begin recording] The regime is trying to make it appear that it upholds the nationalist interest of the nation, but this incident shows that the Aquino government is prepared to sell our independence for any price. [end recording]

On the other hand, the Kabataan Para sa Demokrasya and Nasyonalismo [Kadena—Youth for Democracy and Nationalism] likened Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus to Judas for selling the Philippines for 30 pieces of silver.

Here is Kadena Chairman Joel Adarna:

[Begin recording] When we look back on history, we see Judas's betrayal of Jesus Christ for 30 pieces of silver. If we look at what is happening now, the selling of our sovereignty and independence to the U.S. imperialists by the Aquino regime is a betrayal of the Philippine people. The Philippine people did not put the Aquino government in power to see themselves betrayed by the selling of our sovereignty and our independence. This is also a betrayal by Mr Manglapus. [end recording]

Deo Macalma of Mobile Unit 7 reporting for DZRH News.

Manglapus' Performance Viewed

HK1710051188 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 17 Oct 88 p 4

[“Postscript” Column by Federico D. Pascual Jr: “Manglapus Did His Best”]

[Text] An agreement has been hammered out in Washington, DC, providing for \$282 million yearly for 1990 and 1991 (the last two remaining years of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. bases pact) in U.S. economic, military and development aid to the Philippines.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, which first reported this breakthrough, said the agreement will be signed Monday (Tuesday, Manila time). Late yesterday, Malacanang confirmed the report, although there was confusion as to the amount.

Poor Raul Manglapus. The rabidly anti-bases in our midst will now hound him as the man who sold the country down the river.

Let's be kind to our Foreign Secretary. Remember, he was alone out there tangling with them. It was not easy. But I'm sure he did his best.

We should not measure Manglapus' performance on the basis of how much he got. It's not all money. Rather, the entire Philippine effort must be assessed on the basis of what Manglapus and the rest of us were able to deliver.

The six-month bases talks actually provided the occasion for the ventilation of people's sentiments and arguments regarding the presence of foreign bases.

That airing, which was one massive national educational process (thanks to the press, and no thanks to the sleepy government media), was the one substantial high-light of the talks.

The tough bargaining exposed American intentions. That is another success of the whole exercise.

We were able to confirm once again, for instance, the duplicity that has characterized U.S. dealings with us. Take, for example, that \$10-billion carrot called a mini-Marshall Plan which Washington suddenly waved in the direction of Manila at the height of the negotiations.

As occupants of the Malacanang menagerie excitedly jumped about like rabbits, we in media offered some unsolicited advice:

First, the supposed \$10-billion aid plan is precisely that—just a plan. Until you've counted the cash and safely stashed it away, don't believe it, we warned.

Second, the plan is being floated to influence Philippine attitudes toward the bases.

Immediately came the solemn assurance from Washington and the U.S. embassy: No, the mini-Marshall Plan is not tied to the bases. America is giving the aid to you Flips out of the goodness of our heart, to save democracy.

Mesmerized by the \$10-billion, Malacanang assured us (via Magtanong sa Pangulo [Ask the President]) that our American friends were sincere in their offer of aid and won't you please give them a chance.

But what is unfolding before us is the exact opposite of the American claim, the exact opposite of Malacanang's fervent prayer—that that \$10-billion carrot is not tied to the bases, that it springs from the altruistic heart of Uncle Sam.

American officials have started taking off their masks and warning that the U.S. would drag its feet on the promised \$10-billion aid if the two countries fail to hammer out a satisfactory agreement (meaning satisfactory to them).

And, right on cue, Japan, the American partner in this part of the world, followed through by saying that Japanese contribution to the \$10-billion pot will depend on the base compensation that the Philippines and the U.S. will agree on.

Imagine, our own leaders whetted our appetite. So gullible were they that they even formed a special group to study how we would use the \$10-billion windfall. Binilang na Kaagad ang mga sisiw [They have gone ahead and counted the chickens before they were hatched!]

With almost everybody now panting and salivating for that \$10-billion, how do we back out from the psychological trap into which our naivete had led us? Was that one of the reasons we finally agreed to the \$481-million?

With this valuable lesson, let's hope we can improve on our performance when the hard bargaining starts for the post-1991 bases scenario.

Newspaper Reports Manglapus' Talks in U.S.
HK1510085388 Quezon City MALAYA in English
15 Oct 88 pp 1, 2

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, expected to arrive early next week, faces the tough problem of "selling" to the Filipinos the bases compensation package he is finalizing with American officials in Washington.

Filipinos are expecting the local panel in the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement review to get \$1.2 billion yearly for the use of the U.S. bases here, sources at the Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday said.

They said Manglapus will have his last meeting with U.S. officials today in Washington before he takes off for San Francisco. He is expected in Manila Tuesday or Wednesday.

The foreign office source said he could not be sure whether it is still U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Gaston Sigur, whom Manglapus is meeting today, or other officials in the State Department.

Manglapus met with Sigur Tuesday and Thursday this week.

The source said news from Manglapus's camp in Washington does not give any indication whether developments in the talks are good or bad.

One source said Manglapus was "upset" with the leaks that came out in Manila newspapers Tuesday.

Major Manila dailies reported Tuesday that Manglapus and U.S. officials have agreed on the "hard" or cash component of the bases compensation package amounting to "more than \$500 million but less than \$600 million a year" for the last two years of the RP-U.S. Military Bases Agreement.

The hard component consists of Economic Support Fund, Military Assistance Program and commodities like wheat, cotton, soybeans and Virginia tobacco.

The source also said Manglapus is still working out with Washington officials the "soft" or non-cash component which consists of debt relief, participation in US construction projects in other countries, higher garments quota and procurement of U.S. bases in other countries of commissary goods from the Philippines.

The source said the major problem in the non-cash component is "quantification."

President Aquino has confirmed the agreement on the cash component and the negotiations on the non-cash component of the bases compensation package.

Although Manglapus had denied having agreed to any amount with U.S. officials, diplomatic sources said there is no option left for the Philippines but to accept what the U.S. has said is its maximum offer.

The source close to the negotiations in Washington cited reasons why Manglapus thought it wise to accept the U.S. offer.

The source said when Manglapus talked with Democrat legislators, led by Rep. Stephen Solarz, he was made to realize that the Philippines would not get a better deal if Democrat presidential candidate Michael Dukakis wins on Nov. 8.

"Even those we thought were pro-Filipino U.S. legislators, like Solarz, said we were pricing ourselves out," the source said.

The source also said if no agreement is reached before the Nov. 8 elections, no allocation for the Philippines will be included in the 1989-1990 budget, which is being prepared now and will be submitted to the U.S. congress in January.

If no agreement is reached and therefore no allocation is made for the Philippines, in the U.S. budget, either of two things could happen after September 1989; The U.S. pays nothing or it could continue paying only \$180 million a year.

"Either way, the Philippines loses," the source said.

Thai Daily Interviews Salonga, Laurel on Bases
BK1510034988 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
15 Oct 88 p 1

[From The Chongkhadikit in Manila]

[Text] The Philippines Congress will not allow the military base agreement with the United States to be extended beyond its 1991 expiry date, Senate leader Jovito Salonga said in an exclusive interview yesterday.

He explained that any extension of the agreement will be "unconstitutional."

Senator Salonga quoted Section 25, Article 18 of the Philippines Constitution which states that foreign military bases will not be allowed "except under a treaty duly approved by the Senate and, when the Congress so required, is ratified by a majority of the votes cast by the people in a national referendum."

He said the Senate does not intend to have the military base agreement extended.

The review being conducted currently between the US and the Philippines on the treaty is only for the period up to 1991.

Senator Salonga said: "We are following the example of Thailand which has successfully asked the US to leave its (former) military bases."

He expressed the belief that with the termination of the military base treaty, [the] relationship between the Philippines and the US will be based on a more healthy basis for mutual benefit.

On the other hand, Vice President Salvador Laurel said in a separate interview that "for as long as the military bases are needed to support the interlocking requirements of national and regional security, we will favor a new base treaty with the US under certain conditions."

He named the conditions as:

—The treaty is temporary in character and will not last for more than 10 years and includes a gradual phase out programme.

—The treaty includes conditions most favourable to the Philippines.

—The treaty contains provisions for the joint use of the facilities and for equipping and modernising the Philippines armed forces.

—There must be no interference in the Philippines' internal affairs by the United States.

Vice President Laurel, who has broken his political ties with President Corazon Aquino, now heads the Opposition as chairman of the Union for National Action group comprised of elements opposed to the Aquino government.

Senator Salonga who leads the Liberal Party of which the late Senator Benigno Aquino was secretary general, said that his party was "supportive but not subservient to the Aquino administration."

He said the party "is aware of the shortcomings of the administration but will try to be supportive of the policies it considers good for the people and the country."

Senator Salonga said although Mrs Aquino's husband had been secretary general of the party, the President "had declined to join it because she wishes to be neutral."

The Senate today approved a proposal by President Aquino to postpone the "barangay (village) elections" from the originally scheduled November 14 to February 25 next year.

The new date is the anniversary of the "People Power Revolution" which brought Mrs Aquino to power in 1986.

He said one reason was a number of the barangay were under the control of the Communist Party of the Philippines at present. A period is needed to "clear them" for the elections.

Senate President Salonga praised the government and military for going out into the jungles and hills to fight the insurgency.

Sison Interviewed on U.S. Bases, Other Issues
*HK1510073188 Quezon City NATIONAL MIDWEEK
in English 12 Oct 88 pp 45-46*

[Interview With alleged founder of Communist Party of the Philippines Jose Maria Sison by H. Buenaviaje in Mainz, FRG, on 18 September]

[Text] President Aquino has ordered the cancellation of your Philippine passport. This was after the military filed the charge of subversion against you. What do you think of the charge and the reported passport cancellation? What steps have you taken?

The charge is baseless. It is based on sheer fabrication. How can I commit subversion when I am busy abroad doing research, writing and lecturing?

I have asked my lawyers both in the Philippines and in Holland to look into the veracity of the reports about the filing of the charge and the passport cancellation; and to inquire into and contest the basis of the charge against me and the cancellation of my passport.

Is it true that you have reassumed your position as chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP]?

I have consistently refused to answer such a question with a categorical yes or no. If I say yes, then I become a witness against myself in Philippine courts. If I say no, then the Philippine military will boast in their psywar campaign that I refuse to assume that position.

The burden of proof is on the part of my Philippine accusers. Unlike in Europe and many other places, the Communist Party is not legal in the Philippines.

Obviously, Philippine military authorities want you to return to the Philippines and fall right into their hands. Can they really effect this?

Philippine military authorities have never reconciled themselves to the fact that I am free abroad because the cases raised by the Marcos regime against me have been automatically wiped out by President Aquino's repeal of Marcos' Proclamation Nos 2045 and 2045-A.

My lawyers in the Philippines and in Holland will see to it that due process is followed regarding any charge against me and the issue of passport cancellation. They

will definitely seek to prevent the bloodthirsty military authorities from getting hold of me. I have enough legal resources as well as options to take.

What are you doing now?

I am very busy doing research, writing and lecturing. I am doing social research in collaboration with academic colleagues in a Dutch university. My next book project is on the social history of the Filipino people.

Alongside the report about the cancellation of your passport is the report about General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's offer to dismantle the material and technical supply station of the Soviet fleet in Cam Ranh Bah in exchange for the dismantling of the U.S. bases in the Philippines. Can you comment on this report?

The offer is welcome. It serves to expose and underscore the aggressive and hegemonic character of the United States and its military bases, especially in the Pacific.

But it must be understood above all that the U.S. military bases in the Philippines must be dismantled because these violate Philippine sovereignty and territorial integrity; are actively being used to perpetuate the oppression and exploitation of the Filipino people; and bring the threat of nuclear annihilation to them.

These bases will eventually be dismantled by the Filipino people themselves and by a patriotic government unlike the pro-U.S. and reactionary Aquino regime.

The United States is hellbent on keeping its bases in the Philippines. The revolutionary movement has the best prospect of dismantling these bases, especially within the next decade.

Dismantling the U.S. military bases should not be made dependent on the agreement of foreign powers. And the U.S. bases should not be allowed to persist on the basis of the argument that the Soviet fleet has a station in Vietnam.

Will the Aquino government retain the U.S. military bases?

Based on all current signs, yes. The Aquino government is merely trying to up the compensation package, which is now redefined as bases-related aid, plus other old accounting items.

According to reliable information, there is agreement already to increase the bases-related aid from the level of U.S.\$180 million a year to \$360 million a year. In a semantical hocus-pocus, the compensation package will be made to appear far larger by adding other old accounting items to AID credit and grants (economic support fund) and military credit and grants (military component).

How will the U.S. and the Philippine Government go about retaining the U.S. military bases?

They will soon make a two-year or five-year agreement supplementary to the matrix agreement. The supplementary agreement will focus on the compensation package.

Most likely, there will be a proviso for the extension of the military bases by treaty. The fallback position of the conspirators is by an executive agreement, taking the guise of phasing the bases out but in fact extending the life of the bases.

The pro-Aquino coalition in the Senate can round up two-thirds vote to ratify the treaty. A referendum is subsequently to be held to make it appear that the people have approved the forging of their own chains.

It is the U.S. scheme that, in the referendum, the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [LDP—Struggle of Philippine Democrats] and the Union for National Action will provide the spectacle of a "great debate" and restrict the debate to one regarding the price for the retention of the bases. The reactionary mass media and the preprogrammed computers will deliver the "landslide" approval for the continuance of U.S. bases in the Philippines.

Under what conditions will the Philippine revolutionary movement resume negotiations with the Aquino government?

As I said before, the revolutionary movement would be greatly encouraged to consider negotiations on the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal and anti-fascist demands of the people if the Aquino government would only declare the dismantling of the U.S. military bases and agree to the meeting of the representatives of her government and the National Democratic Front in a safe venue abroad.

I am simply making a personal observation and estimate.

How will the revolutionary movement respond to the retention of the U.S. military bases?

The Philippine revolutionary movement will certainly condemn the Aquino regime and the coalition in support of the retention of U.S. military bases as big traitors; and shall gain the political leeway to undertake punitive actions against them commensurate with their treason.

The retention of the U.S. military bases will certainly further incite the people to armed revolution in the same way that the Parity Amendment and the unequal treaties with the United States stirred up the people in the second half of the 1940s.

When will you return to the Philippines?

I shall return to the Philippines in my own good time. My best advisers and I shall choose the optimum conditions for my return.

Definitely, I shall return long before the final offensive of the armed revolution. I am not bored by my stay abroad because I have plenty of work to do and I can communicate easily with the people at home.

Ban on Carrying Firearms Effective 15 October
HK1410022188 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] The ban on the carrying of firearms outside residences or places of business takes effect at midnight tonight [14 October]. It is the start of the 45-day election period of the barangay election as provided for under the Omnibus Election Code. The Commission on Elections, saying that the law governing the barangay poll on November 14 remains operative until an amendatory law is approved, issued en banc Resolution Number 2034 implementing the firearms ban. The resolution provides that the ban be in effect for 30 days before the November 24 barangay poll and for 15 days thereafter. The ban covers all persons in the country except cashiers and disbursing officers while in the performance of their duties and those who, by nature of their official duties, professions, businesses, or occupations, habitually carry large sums of money or valuables.

Ramos Says CAFGU Will Solve Insurgency
HK1410102588 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0700 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] The CAFGU [Citizen's Armed Forces Geographical Units] is a major factor in the resolution of the country's 20-year insurgency problem. This was stated by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos in his defense of the creation of CAFGU. Ramos opposed Albay Representative Edcel Lagman's proposal to first conduct an experimental stage on the enforcement of the CAFGU. Lagman suggested that the CAFGU should be tried out in a certain place to determine its effectiveness.

Rally Protests Creation of Vigilante Groups
HK1710104388 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Let us hear the report of Jennifer Postigo of Mobile Unit 18:

[Begin recording] Mobile Unit No 18 is still in the city of Manila. We are presently monitoring a protest rally by members of the Association of Democratic Labor Organizations-KMU [Kilusang Mayo Uno—1 May Movement] that has been going on since 1300 this afternoon at the Plaza Miranda. The protesters are voicing their opposition to the formation of vigilante groups, CAFGU's [Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units] and civilian volunteer organizations, which, they claim, are terrorizing labor unions. The demonstrators are now in front of the Department of Labor and Employment and will move on to the U.S. Embassy, where they will continue their demonstration rally. [end recording]

Captive Officer Shot Dead in 'Escape' Attempt
*HK1510034088 Hong Kong AFP in English 0339 GMT
15 Oct 88*

[Text] Manila, Oct 15 (AFP)—A leader of officers who have mounted coup attempts against the government was shot while trying to escape from a military stockade early Saturday and died from the wounds later, camp officials said.

Former Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Francisco Baula died in a military hospital after being shot in the back and the thigh when he tried to escape from Camp Crame, the country's paramilitary and police headquarters, Colonel Percival Adiong, camp commander said.

Col. Adiong said that according to a military police report, Mr. Baula had climbed to a catwalk on the perimeter of the camp stockade and was about to jump out of the jail.

"After warning shots were made and supplemented with verbal warnings, he refused to heed the soldiers and guards were forced to fire shots to stop him," Col. Adiong told AGENCIE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The cashiered officer had been captured along with two other coup plotters in a nightclub in the city's red-light district last October 2.

Col. Adiong said Mr. Baula had attempted to escape the day after he was captured by attempting to hide in an unused sentry box in the stockade, but that a guard had found him.

Col. Adiong said the attempted jailbreak was still under investigation but that there were no signs of any other similar escape attempts from other captured coup plotters.

Mr. Baula was one of the renegade soldiers who attacked the Air Force headquarters during a coup attempt against the government of President Corazon Aquino on August 28, 1987.

The attempted coup left 53 people dead and about 300 wounded.

Mr. Baula was scheduled to face court martial proceedings for mutiny and related charges.

The main coup leader, discharged colonel Gregorio Honasan, is still at large after escaping from a military prison ship last April.

Baula Death Investigated
*HK1710024388 Manila Far East Broadcasting
Company in English 2300 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[Text] Renegade Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Francisco Baula Jr succumbed to complications of massive bleeding and cardiac arrest while undergoing surgery for

gunshot wounds at the Armed Forces Medical Center at the V. Luna Hospital, Quezon City, on October 15. This was the finding of the board of officers headed by Armed Forces of the Philippines' Inspector General Brigadier General Hermogenes Peralta Jr. The board was formed by Armed Forces Chief General Renato de Villa to look into the circumstances of Baula's killing. According to the report, Baula was one of the most trusted military officers of August 28 coup leader Gregorio Honasan. He was shot by jail guards while attempting to escape from his detention cell at Camp Crame early Saturday morning, using a makeshift ladder. The wounded Baula was immediately rushed to the military hospital, but surgeons there failed to save his life. Baula expired at 8:05 in the morning. The report said that after the surgeons closed Baula's abdomen while he was still hooked to the anesthesia machine, he incurred a massive cardiac arrest, coupled by loss of blood. Army spokesman Colonel Oscar Florendo said the surgeons extracted a single .45-caliber slug from Baula's liver and also said his spleen was damaged.

Deliberate Killing Denied
*HK1710062388 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0400 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] The military has denied accusations that former Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Francisco Baula was deliberately killed last Friday. Baula was said to have attempted to escape from his cell in Camp Crame. According to Armed Forces Spokesman Oscar Florendo, initial investigations showed that no suspicious motives were found in connection with Baula's killing. He said Baula could not have been killed intentionally because no premeditated plot existed. However Baula's family said they will file murder charges against all the military officials and men involved in Baula's death.

Communist Rebel Leader Reportedly Arrested
*HK1310143388 Hong Kong AFP in English 1405 GMT
13 Oct 88*

[Text] Cebu, Philippines, Oct 13 (AFP)—Police arrested a communist insurgent leader in this central Philippine city Thursday.

Rose Mercado, described by the military as the deputy secretary of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) party committee for the central Philippines, was arrested along with two other women rebels at a house here, police said.

Mrs. Mercado, 28, was one of three regional representatives of the rebel coalition National Democratic Front (NDF) which held peace talks with the government in December 1986.

A second negotiator, Roman Catholic priest-turned-rebel Rustico Tan, was captured in Manila earlier this year, while the third, Jovito Plaza, was assassinated near Cebu.

Police Lieutenant Romeo Cordoba told reporters the raiding party found propaganda material and other documents during the raid.

The CPP's New People's Army has been waging a 19-year guerrilla war against the Manila government.

President Corazon Aquino has said the government broke the back of the insurgency with the arrests of five CPP Central Committee members earlier this year.

But the CPP founder, Jose Maria Sison, claims the rebels remain on target to seize power within the next decade.

Top Communist Escapes From Detention Cell
*HK1210041988 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 12 Oct 88 p 20*

[By Jun Velasco and C. Rabago]

[Text] Lingayen, Pangasinan—Francisco Pascual, number 10 in the hierarchy of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), escaped from his detention cell together with two other rebels at around 7:10 Thursday night.

Initial investigation showed that the three escaped by passing through a hole which they made on the ceiling and roofing of their cell in the compound of the Constabulary provincial headquarters.

Pascual, who was a member of the CPP-Central Committee, was arrested sometime last June 24 at Bonoan beach, Dagupan City.

Local police authorities were placed under red alert and were ordered to seal all possible escape routes by Col. Romeo Odi, Pangasinan PC commander.

Col. Odi believed Pascual is still within the vicinity of Lingayen. He said government efforts to recapture the rebels were bright.

Pascual and his two other unidentified companions timed their escape when the guards assigned to them were busy taking their supper, investigators said.

After Pascual was captured last June, his wife took over his position and assumed leadership of the CPP in central and northern Luzon.

Larrazabal's Kidnappers Said Killed in Bombing
HK1710111388 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 17 Oct 88

[From "GMA News" program]

[Text] The Cebu military made good a threat to bomb a communist rebel hideout in the region. A report from Cebu claimed that 20 rebels were killed when Air Force

fighter planes dropped bombs on Barangay Gaas in Ormoc, Leyte, where millionaire sugar planter Potenciano Larrazabal Sr was kept in captivity.

According to Brigadier General Jesus Hermosa, among those killed in the bombing were Larrazabal's kidnappers. The millionaire sugar planter was released last Saturday after his family paid a ransom of P5 million.

The bombing by the Air Force yesterday reportedly caused residents in the vicinity to evacuate to other areas. It is still not known whether civilians were wounded during the raid.

Military Ordered Not To Start Trouble in Sulu
HK1410105988 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] in Malacanang, President Aquino today ordered the military in Sulu not to start trouble in the area as reports revealed that the MNLF has beefed up its forces. Southcom [Southern Command] Chief Major General Manuel Cacanando disclosed this to Malacanang newsmen after he had briefed the president on the Mindanao situation. Sel Baisa has the details:

[Begin recording] Cacanando clarified that the additional two battalions deployed to Sulu do not intend to fight, but to prevent a possible disturbance. He said the military will stop the plan of MNLF Chief Nur Misuari to fly their own flag and declare a provisional government in the region. This plan was discovered by the military through its reliable intelligence network. [end recording]

Thailand

Chatchai Comments on U.S. Trade Relations
BK1710033688 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Oct 88 p 1

[Text] Qualified members from the Opposition will be invited to join a government committee to handle international trade. Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan told the BANGKOK POST in Phatthaya last night.

He said he had rejected a proposal made by Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin because he wanted the trade committee to include members of opposition parties as well.

The committee, he said, will assist and coordinate with a 19-member panel of similar nature established by Parliament to study the U.S. Trade Bill.

The prime minister said he found another flaw in Mr Phong's proposed international trade committee plan—that there is no specific term for the committee members.

Besides, he said, the trade negotiator must not be the same person. [sentence as published] They must rotate.

Regarding Thai-U.S. trade relations, the prime minister said Thailand's trade relations with the U.S. have always been good and he said the Americans recently agreed to waive taxes on several items of Thai goods.

U.S. trade protectionism, he noted, is not aimed specifically at Thailand, but at all U.S. trading partners.

Columnist Supports Drug Patent Law
BK1410150988 Bangkok NAEONAI in Thai
10 Oct 88 p 2

[Article by Thiansawang entitled: "Drug Patent: A Domestic and a Foreign Reflection"]

[Text] The government has only a short time to solve the problem of intellectual property protection, on which the United States has exerted pressure from General Prem's government to Major General Chatchai's government. Considering it with a fair mind, we can see that all advanced countries have intellectual property protection laws. Thailand is a country moving toward NIC [newly industrialized country] status. It is also a civilized country, like those countries it trades with. Therefore, we should accept the code of conduct that is seen as a rule of practice, as in politics and trade, for coexistence in world society. As for intellectual property protection laws, sometimes we have to make compromises according to the situation. We should not just consider it an issue of losing our independence and sovereignty, for this is a misunderstanding. Sometimes, it is not correct to stubbornly think of something as an issue of losing face and to use this as grounds for an objection.

The issue of intellectual property protection laws is worth studying and understanding for both its positive and negative points. However, in the past, information on this issue has always been negative. We should try to consider intellectual protection laws in another dimension so we can use this information as the basis for correct considerations, which is better than just judging who is right and who is wrong.

There are three kinds of laws granting protection for inventors to prevent copying and counterfeiting. They are the patent law, copyright law, and trademark law. Among the three laws, the patent law has the greatest effect on national development and gives the shortest protection period.

Thailand has had a patent law since 1979, but it does not cover drugs. As the world situation changes due to increased competition, the call for enacting a drug patent law increases. Let us talk about the benefits of a patent law to see who stands to benefit from it.

The first group is "the people."

When people are ill, they have to depend on medicine, both medicine produced locally and in other countries. The medicine that would be protected by a drug patent

law is medicine that has been researched and tested to make sure it will not have a negative impact. This is to protect the reputation of the drug producers who have to manufacture good-quality, standardized drugs. A drug patent law would in turn guarantee that consumers get good-quality medicine and that there are no copies of the drug.

The next group that stands to benefit is the "government."

This group is responsible for finding sources of quality drugs for the people. Therefore, the government should promote investment in the pharmaceutical industry to meet the people's demands. Sometimes new drug products have to come from multinational pharmaceutical companies. The government should create and maintain the investment atmosphere by inviting those multinational companies to invest in the country and by enacting protection laws for them. Multinational companies have substantially slowed down their investment in Thailand and have turned to countries with protection laws—such as South Korea, Taiwan, and Japan—thereby affecting our country's economic and technological development.

The third group is "local pharmaceutical companies."

This group maintains the largest drug market share. It is a small group, but one that has largely opposed the drug patent issue. This group is likely to benefit the most from drug patent protection because after the patent protection period is over, this group will be able to produce a drug for sale without investing in research since someone has already researched and produced the drug and it is trusted in the market.

Then, there is "the group of multinational pharmaceutical companies"

This group needs drug patents to protect their inventions and will use the benefits from the protection to invest in the research and development of new drug products. This is a driving force in bringing new products to the market.

The last group is the "Thai researchers." There are many Thai researchers who are not inferior to foreign researchers. But, they cannot disclose or pass on their technology because there is no protection law. They are afraid that their work will be copied if disclosed. When researchers invent new products, they have to live in other countries that have a protection law in order to seek justice for their research. This causes a brain-drain and standstill in technology transfer, which delays national development. If Thai researchers succeed in their inventions, the value of the sale of their inventions throughout the world could be worth more than the total value of the drug products on the market. Everything mentioned above is a positive effect of a drug patent law. Is it true, as some people say, that a drug patent law will cause higher drug prices? In fact, there are more than 5,000

types of medicine for sale in our country's market. The people and pharmacists can select old medicines and do not necessarily use new products. If new products are expensive, no matter how good they are, the people will still use old products since there are choices. If drugs are expensive and there are no buyers, the products will not exist. If the government enacts a drug patent law, it can set up fair drug prices. Charges that a drug patent law will have an impact on pharmaceutical producers in the country are also not true. Only 4 percent of the total drug products in our country are still under patent protection. The others are beyond the patent protection period. This period is very short. After a period of less than 5 years, producers in the country can produce a drug for sale.

The issue of a drug patent law is an issue that concerns international laws, politics, and trade because drugs are related to human lives. Therefore, the setting up of any attitude or policy must be carefully considered, taking into account the interests of all sides as much as possible. Concern for the prestige of one's own country is a good thing. But, narrow-minded concern will not bring progress to national development. Don't forget that world change is neverending. If we cannot catch up with the world and the situation, Thailand will be branded as an underdeveloped country. Are we going to become a NIC.?

Paper Reports on Arrest of Americans in Laos
BK1510153988 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai
12 Oct 88 p 6

[Text] It is reported that an American couple, Mr James Koff, 40, and Mrs Donna Long, 32, who are members of an association searching for MIA's in Vietnam, traveled to Thailand under the guise of tourists. They hired a boat at Khong Chiam District of Ubon Ratchathani Province on the Mekong River to float plastic bags containing U.S., Vietnamese, Soviet, Lao, and Thai currency bearing a message offering a reward to anyone who could locate an American prisoner of war in Laos. They were also making a videotape of what they were doing. They were arrested by Lao guerrilla militiamen on espionage charges on 3 October and were sent by the Lao authorities to Vientiane. The fate of the couple is not known. It is reported, however, that the Lao Government has demanded a fine for their release.

According to a report from our correspondent on 11 October, before they were arrested by the Lao authorities, James Koff and Donna Long stayed at the Pathum Rat Hotel in Ubon Ratchathani Province. They told officials that Koff was a teacher and Long a freelance writer. They said they had come to visit the area where the Mekong and Mun Rivers meet, at Khong Chiam District. They were taken to Mai Sisamphan village after their arrest.

After learning of the incident, Ubon Ratchathani Governor Sub-Lieutenant Danai Ketsiri contacted the Lao authorities to seek the release of the couple. The talks

seemed likely to be successful, but were halted after Lao villagers discovered the plastic bags containing various currencies and the message offering a reward of \$2.4 million or about 60 million baht. The Lao side feared the two Americans might be spies and refused to release them. The U.S. consul general in Udon Thani Province, Mrs Margaret [McMillion], tried to contact the Lao authorities to help the couple, but without success. Laos demanded a fine in return for their release.

Our correspondent reported that James Koff and Donna Long are not man and wife; they are just friends. The woman was once an AP reporter, but had resigned. The couple are still detained at Mai Sisamphan Village, and have not been sent to Vientiane. Lao soldiers took the couple to a prison in Pakse District of Champassak Province, pending investigations by high-ranking officials from Vientiane. Our correspondent was informed by merchants doing business along the border that the fine for the release of the couple could be very high if contact is made through relatives or American officials as the two people have been charged with spying.

Police Lieutenant Colonel Phen Kanthanyakit, Chief Police Inspector of Khong Chiam District, told our reporter that it is not true that Laos sent officials to contact the Thai authorities, demanding fines for the return of the two Americans. If there was any contact, he and Khong Chiam District headman Nopphadon Sarikabut would know about it. However, up to now there has been no contact with Lao representatives.

Police Lt Col Phen went on to say that if the two Americans had told us of their intentions, such an incident would not have happened. He said he is willing to provide assistance and advice as he and the Khong Chiam District headman have been working in the district for a long time, and are acquainted with local Lao authorities. Two days ago a group of three to four westerners, believed to be members of the same association, traveled to the area in a grey van. They did not contact officials, but walked around the Araya Restaurant along the Mekong River. They gave envelopes containing \$1 each to villagers and children. After receiving the report, he sent police officials to observe the situation. However, when the westerners saw the officials, they drove away. He said that he has no right to prevent or arrest them because giving money is not against the law and the U.S dollars are real money that can be cashed into Thai currency.

Pol Lt Col Phen disclosed that at 1000 on 11 October, the U.S. Consul in Udon Thani Province phoned him to seek further information on the two Americans arrested in Laos and also sent a letter to thank him for his initial help. He said, however, that the two Americans did not act properly because they did not inform the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok of their moves. Even the U.S. consul in Udon Thani Province did not know what they were doing here.

Out correspondent also reported that the fisherman who sailed the boat for the two Americans to float money in the Mekong River has been identified as Luam Chupsing, of Ban Dankao of Khong Chiam District. After the incident, he was called in for investigations by Pol Lt Col Phen, and was fined for 1,000 baht for illegally leaving the country. Luam disclosed that while he was beside the river, the American couple contacted him about hiring his boat. He was paid 1,500 baht to take the two Americans for a ride along the Mekong River bank from Ban Dankao, past the Mekong River Operation Unit's station and the Araya Restaurant, to the area where the Mekong and Mun Rivers meet. During the ride, the two Americans placed money contained in plastic bags into the river and shot videotape. He was then forced to sail his boat to the Lao side in the area of Mai Sisamphan village. There were about four or five children playing along the bank. The two Americans were filming until he the two Americans were arrested by the Lao guerrilla militiamen. He was later freed.

Concerning this issue, Deputy Director General of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department Pratyathawi Thawethikun said that he had already checked with the Political Affairs Department about the matter and was told that they had not received any official report. He learned of the arrest of the two Americans from the press. The arrest took place in Lao territory. According to practice, the U.S. Embassy in Thailand has to take responsibility for its own people. We can do nothing because the Foreign Ministry has not yet been contacted by the U.S. Embassy for help.

Pratyathawi said that it is difficult to prevent the reoccurrence of such incidents because if the Americans come into the country as tourists, we cannot prevent them from entering. Moreover, they also did not give any clues as to what they would be doing. If we had known, we would have warned them that what they were planning was not correct; we might even have banned them from entering, as in the case of Lt Col "Bo" Gritz who sneaked into Laos.

Chatchai Rejects Border Development Proposal
BK1710032588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
17 Oct 88 p 3

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday rejected a Laotian proposal for the joint development of Ban Romkla.

Maj-Gen Chatchai said Ban Romkla, the scene of a bitter conflict between Laotian and Thai forces last year, is in Phitsanulok province and that the proposal from Vientiane is not acceptable.

In an approach to the Foreign Ministry, Laos proposed joint development of the 80-square-kilometre remote border tract.

Returning to issues in Bangkok, Maj-Gen Chatchai said he would support Deputy Interior Minister Santi Chaiwirattana in the no-confidence motion scheduled for October 20 before he leaves for Indonesia the same day.

Chat Thai MPs would vote for the Social Action Party minister, he said. "There'll be no problem and Khun [Mister] Santi will certainly survive."

In an apparent reference to Mr Santi's artesian well controversy, the premier was quoted as saying democracy had come this far and should not be set back with the possible downfall of a minister in a no-confidence vote.

In another development, the Government will throw a dinner party for the 357 coalition and Opposition MPs at the Ambassador Hotel on October 17.

Preview To Talks With Lao Military Delegation
BK1610013488 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] Thailand and Laos will not discuss politics during the three-day visit of Laotian Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Sisavat Keobounphan starting tomorrow [17 October], Deputy Supreme Commander Gen Phat Akhanitbut said yesterday.

But he said general issues such as cooperation and development of both armed forces would be discussed.

The Foreign Ministry is handling politics and the military would talk mainly about assistance, he said.

Spokesman of the Supreme Command Lt-Gen [Lieutenant General] Narudon Detpradiyut said Gen Sisavat's visit will strengthen relations between the armed forces of the two countries and topics such as the general situation will be on the agenda.

During the Laotian Army Chief's stay, the armed forces will stage northeast classical dance shows to boost relations and create a better atmosphere since the shows will be in the northeast dialect similar to the Laotian language.

ASEAN Dilemma on Cambodia Issue Viewed
BK1310002588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
13 Oct 88 p 4
[Editorial: "ASEAN Dilemma on Khmer Vote"]

[Text] The current debate at the United Nations over the reference to the Khmer Rouge in the ASEAN-backed resolution on Kampuchea is crucial to the organisation's attempt to ensure continued international support for its position on Kampuchea.

For the first time since the international community started supporting the resolution, an attempt is being made to condemn the Khmer Rouge's behaviour prior to their ouster from power—a move that has caused a split between major supporters of the resolution.

China opposes the wording, which calls for the non-return to the "universally-condemned practices and policies of a recent past," and prefers the description of "unacceptable" while the US finds the wording sufficient but has said it may not support the resolution if condemnation of the Khmer Rouge is watered down any further.

ASEAN, therefore, is faced with a most difficult task and its options are limited. It needs to satisfy international abhorrence and desire for the United Nations to condemn the Khmer Rouge while at the same time ensure that the international community does not forget that the primary cause of the Kampuchean conflict is the illegal occupation by Vietnam.

Although a decision to include condemnation of the Khmer Rouge in this year's resolution will most certainly mean substantial support from Western nations, ASEAN runs the risk of losing Chinese support. The condemnation would also benefit Vietnam which has been trying for years to deflect international attention from its occupation of Kampuchea and pass on responsibility for the conflict onto the Khmer Rouge. At the same time, however, ASEAN runs the risk of losing credibility if the wording is watered down whereby making criticism inconsequential. China should realise ASEAN's predicament.

Although the condemnation of the Khmer Rouge is indeed a new element in this year's resolution, the primary target of ASEAN and international condemnation continues to be Vietnam's occupation. This will not change as long as Vietnam continues to occupy the war-torn country. It would be more detrimental to ASEAN and China if support for the resolution drops particularly after all the hard work over the past nine years in maintaining the momentum and increasing the vote.

ASEAN has said that a lasting solution to the Kampuchean problem does not end simply with a Vietnamese withdrawal but with a political solution that ensures lasting peace and a non-aligned Kampuchea in which Kampuchean can exercise their right of self-determination. ASEAN does not seek to exclude completely the Khmer Rouge but has adopted the realistic approach that Democratic Kampuchea play a part, although not a dominant role, in the new government with the other three factions. For these reasons it is hoped that China will support the current move in the United Nations to ensure that the world continues to send a clear signal that it wants Vietnamese troops to leave Kampuchea.

Talks Held With SRV Vice Foreign Minister
BK1510012088 Bangkok THE NATION in English
15 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] Thailand and Vietnam yesterday held talks on the Kampuchean conflict but failed to narrow their differences prior to a working group meeting with the four Khmer factions and other ASEAN countries.

M.R. Thep Thewakun, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Affairs Department, told a press conference that he discussed various aspects of the Kampuchean conflict with the Vietnamese delegates, led by Vice Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co, in an effort to find common positions on the issue.

Thep, who headed the Thai side, described the meeting as fruitful although the two parties still have different views on Kampuchea including schedule of the Vietnamese troop withdrawals, the national reconciliation policy, the future government of Kampuchea, as well as an international conference on Kampuchea.

He declined to give details on the discussion saying that the outcome of yesterday's meeting will be further discussed in a working group meeting next Monday in Jakarta.

Senior officials from ASEAN, Vietnam and Laos will join representatives from the four Khmer factions in a meeting to recommend whether there should be another informal meeting.

Commenting on the upcoming Sino-Soviet summit, Thep said both Moscow and Beijing have expressed their willingness to see the Kampuchean conflict resolved. "The summit talks might have some impacts on the effort to end the Kampuchean conflict resolved. "The summit talks might have some impacts on the effort to end the Kampuchean conflict," he said.

Thep said he did not know if the two superpowers have already struck any agreement on how to solve the ten-year-old problem. But Beijing has shown a positive attitude by agreeing to exchange visits of senior officials.

Thep and his delegation will on Monday leave for Jakarta for the working group meeting on Kampuchea. The talks are expected to last three days.

Two Burmese Student Leaders Arrested in Bangkok
BK1510022088 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
15 Oct 88 p 1

[Excerpt] Special branch police arrested two Burmese student leaders at Thammasat University on Thursday [13 October], an authoritative source said yesterday.

The arrests were seen as a toughening of government policy against anti-Rangoon activities by illegal Burmese immigrants in Thailand, the source said.

Win Moe and Aung Naing, both secretaries to the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU), were arrested one day before they were to take part in a rally at Ramkhamhaeng University to commemorate the October 14, 1973 student uprising.

The rally was organised by Ramkhamhaeng's Satchatham party members.

The two Burmese were initially charged with illegal entry, said the source.

They might be further charged with activities against the Burmese Government, the source said.

The two Burmese were brought to Bangkok from a Karen camp opposite Mae Sot District of Tak on Monday with the help of a retired army general, the source said.

The two student leaders, along with some 20 other Burmese, also participated in a panel discussion on the situation in Burma at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand last Wednesday.

The source said eight of the Burmese are staying in Thailand illegally.

Security officials are closely watching the movements of Burmese students and civilians in Thailand.

The source added that Thai authorities are concerned that their movements may jeopardise Thai-Burmese relations and may be interpreted by Rangoon as a sign the Thai Government is giving them tacit support.

The source said Win Moe and Aung Naing will be prosecuted for illegal entry, fined and deported. [passage omitted]

Daily Views Burmese Student Struggle
BK1510025688 Bangkok THE NATION in English
15 Oct 88 p 8

[Editorial: "Burmese Students Face a Precarious Future"]

[Text] The struggle for freedom and democracy in Burma between the military regime in Rangoon and various dissident groups entered a new stage this week with the registration of the 16th political party and the Karen rebels' seizure of a government outpost near the Thai-Burmese border in which 50 dissident students reportedly took part.

The number of dissidents, mostly students, fleeing arrest in Rangoon and other cities to join minority rebels along the border has now exceeded 5,000. Arms training of some of these dissidents by their ethnic minority hosts is now under way in several border camps. A military spokesman recently said the dissidents are potential armed insurgents and they will be treated as such.

Most of these dissidents hope to win democracy by overthrowing the military regime in an armed struggle. They believe that the newly-introduced multi-party system as well as the promise of general elections is only part of the military regime's tactics of holding on to power indefinitely.

Many of their co-protesters in the recent uprising, who are dissident politicians who have not gone underground, have formed political parties although many of them still doubt that the promise of general elections will be fulfilled by the military regime in good faith. So far, all the 16 parties have not committed themselves to participating in the general elections.

With the introduction of a multi-party system and a promise of general elections, the military regime has divided the forces behind the recent anti-government uprising. The students at the border no longer see eye to eye with dissident politicians who have formed political parties in Rangoon. And the politicians are divided among themselves—into at least 16 parties so far.

With such divisiveness, the opposition parties have virtually no chance of winning enough votes to defeat the National Unity Party in case the general elections are held soon. (The National Unity Party—a new name of the dreaded ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party—has not registered as a new party.)

By registering their parties, dissident politicians have practically accepted the military regime's legitimacy in leading political reforms, regardless of whether they will boycott or participate in the general elections.

The students at the border now have no better choice but to rely more on their ethnic minority hosts and, perhaps, learn the hard fact of jungle life—that nothing comes easy. And their accommodation as well as arms training is not free. By taking part in the recent attack on the government border outpost, the students have been dragged into the protracted struggle for political autonomy of ethnic states, which has little or nothing to do with their own concern for restoration of democracy in Burma.

'Restraint' Urged in Presenting Foreign News
BK1310035388 Bangkok THE NATION in English
13 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] The Foreign Ministry yesterday urged both government and privately-owned TV stations to exercise restraint in presenting foreign news that does not conform to Thai national interests.

The request was contained in a letter issued by the Foreign Ministry signed by Pratyathawi Tawethikun, deputy director-general of the Information Department.

The letter asked for cooperation from TV stations which broadcast satellite news about foreign countries such as Burma and Afghanistan.

Pratyathawi pointed out some Thai translations of satellite news broadcasts were incorrect and could cause misunderstandings between Thailand and friendly countries.

He called on TV stations to make enquiries to the ministry if there are doubts in their translations. [sentence as published]

Chawalit Signs Military Reshuffle Order
*BK1610015488 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
16 Oct 88 p 2*

[Text] Acting Supreme Commander Gen Chawalit Yongchayut has signed an order reshuffling a number of officers in the Supreme Command and the Air Force.

Transferred by the order are:

- Air Marshal Suwit Chantharapraait, attached to the Royal Thai Air Force [RTAF], to Air Force Assistant Commander-in-Chief, replacing ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Wira Kitchathon who resigned to take over the chairmanship of Thai Airways International;
- Maj-Gen [Major General] Sombun Narksin, officer attached to the Office of the Supreme Commander, to the Supreme Command;
- Maj-Gen Chatthalom Lekhawanithamphithak, attached to the Royal Thai Army, to Office of the Army Commander-in-Chief;
- Maj-Gen Anuwat Thapkhai, attached to the Office of the Supreme Commander, to the Supreme Command;
- Maj-Gen Phon Rotphonphichan, attached to the Office of the Supreme Commander, to the Supreme Command;
- Air Vice Marshal [AVM] Pramot Wirutmasen, attached to the Office of the Supreme Commander, to the Supreme Command;
- AVM Chumphon Rumrattana, attached to the RTAF, to the Supreme Command;
- RTAF specialist Group Captain Dusit Chamroenroei, to the RTAF; and
- Group Captain Banchong Chantrachot and Group Captain Prakhon Wichitramut to become RTAF specialists.

Vietnam

'Joint Communique' Issued on Troop Withdrawal
*BK1610050588 Hanoi VNA in English
0439 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 16—The Defence Ministries of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea today issue the following joint communique: [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese at 1115 GMT on 16 October, in a similar report on the communique, renders the first paragraph as follows: "Today, 16 October, the SRV Ministry of National Defense issued a communique on the withdrawal of Vietnamese Army Volunteers from Cambodia. The communique said:"]

In furtherance of the agreement between the Governments of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea made public on May 26, 1988 on the withdrawal of 50,000 troops and the Command of the Vietnamese volunteer army from Kampuchea in 1988;

Subsequent to the withdrawal of the command of the Vietnamese volunteer army, of various units of the command, construction, supply and technical forces during June and of a number of other units during July, August and September 1988;

The Defence Ministries of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea have agreed that:

—The remaining units will be withdrawn monthly from now to the end of 1988, and the last contingent of the 50,000 volunteers to be withdrawn in 1988 will be repatriated by land and water during the month of December;

—The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea welcome representatives of any countries, international organisations and reporters of news and press agencies, radio and television, and all others concerned about the Kampuchea issue who wish to come and observe the withdrawal in December 1988.

Hanoi Notes Soviet, French Remarks on Cambodia
*BK1610142488 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 16 Oct 88*

[Text] According to AFP, on the second day of their talks in Paris, Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and his French counterpart Dumas noted effective developments in the search for a solution on Cambodia, thus helping to ease tension in the region.

The Soviet Union and France held that the third meeting next month in Paris between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk will vigorously intensify efforts to seek a solution to the Cambodian conflict.

Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vasilyev stressed that the world community would absolutely not allow the Khmer Rouge to return to power in Cambodia.

U.S. Opposition to Khmer Rouge Cited
*BK1610142888 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] After the meeting between Prince Sihanouk and U.S. President Reagan, the U.S. side stressed an acceptable solution which comprises measures aimed at preventing the Khmer Rouge from returning to power in Cambodia.

The Voice of America reported that during his meeting with Prince Sihanouk, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz expressed his support for the establishment of a coalition government after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops. He said: We should neither let the Khmer Rouge elements control the coalition government nor allow them to return to power in Cambodia.

Talks in Bangkok Prepare for Jakarta Meeting
*BK1510151588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] On 14 October in Bangkok, Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co, met Political Director Thep Thewakun and some other high-ranking officials of Thai Foreign Ministry.

Attending the meeting, on the Vietnamese side, were assistant to the foreign minister Dang Nghiem Hoanh and Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand Le Mai.

The two sides exchanged views on preparations for the next working group meeting in Jakarta among the various Cambodian sides and those countries concerned which participated in the Jakarta informal meeting [JIM].

The exchange of views took place in a constructive and friendly atmosphere. Both sides agreed that the working group should discuss and take specific steps to implement the conclusions of the JIM and carry on the dialogue process in order to reach a political solution to Cambodia.

Both sides thought that there had been more mutual understanding and believed that the exchange of views would positively contribute to the results of the meeting of the coming working group.

Vietnam Socialist Party Disbanded After 42 Years
*BK1610040188 Hanoi VNA in English
1532 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 15—The Vietnam Socialist Party today declares that it has terminated its activities after 42 years of existence. In a statement read at the farewell meeting held at the party's office here, the secretary general, Nguyen Xien, said that the founding of the Socialist Party on July 22, 1946 was aimed at rallying the patriotic and progressive intellectuals trained before the August Revolution in 1945. It has played an active role in broadening the national united front for the defence and consolidation of the young revolutionary power and defeating the scheme of the imperialists and their henchmen to divide the Vietnamese intellectuals at that time.

Nowadays, the statement said, there remain very few intellectuals belonging to the pre-revolution generation and those who are members of the Socialist Party are

already very advanced in age. Therefore, at its final congress held on July 21 and 22, 1988 the party issued a resolution declaring the termination of its activities.

In his speech on the occasion, Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, highly praised the Socialist Party's contributions to the success of the national people's democratic revolution and the present, initial stage of socialist construction in Vietnam, especially in the building of the Constitution; development of culture, science, and techniques; and in the education and training of the new contingent of intellectuals of the country.

Trade Union Congress Opening Reported

Do Muoi on Union Activities
*BK1410035588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 12 Oct 88*

[Text] The Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions Secretariat and the Council of Ministers Standing Committee met in Hanoi on 11 October to exchange views, evaluate the workers movement and trade unions' activities in the past, and discuss the relations between trade unions and state organs in preparation for the Sixth National Trade Union Congress.

Comrade Duong Xuan An provided a roundup report on the outcome of trade union congresses at levels from provinces down to the grass roots. It was reported that this time the trade union congresses at various levels had been held in a truly democratic and open spirit in accordance with the watchword: trade union congresses at any levels must tackle the tasks belonging to their own levels. That is why most of the petitions made by workers and civil servants at the trade union congresses held by various provinces, cities, sectors, and 31,000 grass-roots trade unions have been solved locally.

Addressing the meeting, Chairman Do Muoi expressed hope that trade unions will regularly and promptly reflect to responsible state organs the feelings and aspirations of their workers and civil servants in production and everyday life in order to help the government achieve better results in its economic, cultural, and social management. Mass media organs must promptly disseminate information on activities of the workers movement. As for specific petitions made by trade unions, the Council of Ministers will study them carefully and include them in the work schedules of itself as well as of various ministries so as to tackle them one by one in a practical manner.

News Conference Held in Hanoi
*BK1510045288 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 14 Oct 88*

[Text] The Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions [VCTU] held a news conference in Hanoi this morning on Vietnam's sixth trade union congress. Comrade Duong Xuan An, general secretary of the VCTU, presided over the news conference.

Attending were representatives of various press agencies and radio and television stations at the central level and in Hanoi. Also present at the news conference were a large number of Hanoi-based correspondents of various foreign press agencies.

Comrade Duong Xuan An pointed out the purpose and significance of the sixth VCTU congress and answered many questions raised by local and foreign newsmen.

As has already been announced, the sixth VCTU congress will open on 17 October 1988 with the participation of 839 delegates.

Foreign Delegations Arrive
*BK1610030488 Hanoi VNA in English 1518 GMT
15 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 15—Twenty foreign delegations have arrived to attend the Sixth National Congress of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions due to open here next Monday.

They are of the Central Council of Trade Unions of the Soviet Union, the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions, the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), the National Union of Angolan Workers (UNTA), the Central Council of the Afghan Trade Unions (CCATU), the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions, the Centre for Cuban Workers (CCW), the Central Council of Hungarian Trade Unions (CCHTU), the Mongolian General Council of Trade Unions (MGCTU), the Sandinist Congress of Workers (SCW), of Nicaragua, the International Trade Union Unity Committee of Australia, the French General Confederation of Labour (CGT), the Trade Unions of the Philippines and Allied Services (TUPAS), the National Association of Trade Unions (NATU), the National Congress of Workers (NCW-KATIPUNAN) of the Philippines, the May 1st Movement Labor Center, the National Congress of Thai Labour (NCT), the Free Labour Congress of Thailand (FLCT), the Thai Trade Union Congress (TTUC), and the National Workers' Center of Thailand (NWCT).

Further on Foreign Delegations
*BK1710093588 Hanoi VNA in English
0720 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 17—Nine more foreign delegations arrived here on October 15 and 16 for the 6th congress of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions [VFTU].

They are from the World Federation of Trade Unions led by General Secretary Ibrahim Zakaria; the Laos Federation of Trade Unions; the Central Council of Trade Unions of Albania; the Central Council of Trade Unions of Bulgaria; the Confederation of Free German Trade Unions; the Italian Confederation of Trade Unions; the

Central Council of Trade Unions of Romania; the Central Council of Trade Unions of Czechoslovakia; and the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea.

So far, 29 foreign delegations have arrived here to attend the 6th Congress of the VFTU.

Congress Opens; Nguyen Van Linh Speaks
*BK1710114388 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] The Sixth National Trade Union Congress of Vietnam opened in Hanoi on Monday [17 October]. Present at the congress were 839 delegates representing about 4 million trade unionists of more than 300,000 [as heard] trade union organizations throughout the country. Also present at the congress were Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV; Pham Van Dong and Le Duc Tho, advisers to the party Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, president of the State Council; Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly; and many other senior leaders.

Foreign delegations include the World Federation of Trade Union; the Soviet Central Council of Trade Unions; the Lao Federation of Trade Unions; the Kampuchean Trade Union Federation; the trade union organizations of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Albania, Romania, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Yugoslavia, France, Italy, Japan, Australia, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Angola, South Africa, India, the Philippines, Thailand, and Indonesia and many others.

In his opening speech, President of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions Pham The Duyet said: At this congress, representatives of the working class and the working people will send to the party and state their opinions and aspirations in an open, constructive, and responsible spirit.

Mr Pham The Duyet said:

[Begin Nguyen The Duyet recording in Vietnamese fading into English translation] The working class, laboring people, and trade union organizations in the whole country assign the congress with heavy and glorious tasks. Realizing this responsibility, each of us has to concentrate our mind, efforts, and in a spirit of renovation, let us work with a sense of responsibility, real democracy for the cause of the working class, laboring people, and trade union organizations. [end recording]

Next, Mr Duong Xuan An, secretary general of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions, delivered a report on the situation and tasks of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions. He said: In the coming years, the federation will have the task of encouraging workers and laborers to apply themselves to the

new mechanism of economic management, do production, practice thrift, and to develop trade unions in economic establishments outside the state sector.

Regarding the external affairs of Vietnam trade unions in the years to come, Mr Duong Xuan An said: The Vietnam Trade Union Federation will strengthen coordination of actions with international trade unions in the struggle for peace, democracy, development, and social progress. The Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions will continue to widen ties with the laborer movements and trade union organizations of Laos, Kampuchea, the Soviet Union, other socialist countries, the World Federation of Trade Unions, and trade union organizations of all other countries.

In the afternoon session, Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh made a speech. He said: In the recent past, although the socioeconomic situation of Vietnam is full of difficulties, the Vietnamese working class and people still maintain their revolutionary tradition and their loyalty to the party and state.

The party general secretary pointed out:

[Begin Nguyen Van Linh recording in Vietnamese fading into English translation] The contingent of workers rallied in the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions are playing a very important role in the national economy and in many other domains in society. They constitute the main force called upon to create step by step the deep changes in our country. About 4 million workers, employees, and trade union members of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions have been and will be a reliable mainstay of our party and state.

On this occasion, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, I would like to praise the working class, the manual and brain workers of our country for their great and worthy contributions to the cause of building and defending the homeland. [end recording]

General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh end also affirmed that the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions should renew its contents and methods of activity, renew its organization, and expand its sphere of activities. He stressed that [words indistinct] trade union organizations is not only a task of the working class and the laboring people of Vietnam but also the responsibility of the party and state.

Also at the session on Monday afternoon, many foreign delegates expressed their greetings to the sixth national trade union congress, considering it an important event of the Vietnamese working people.

Further on Congress Opening

BK1710052588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] The Sixth Congress of Vietnamese Trade Union was solemnly opened this morning, 17 October, at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall in Hanoi, with the participation of 839 delegates representing workers, civil servants, and laboring people throughout the country.

Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State; Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly, attended and participated in the presidium. Comrades Pham Van Dong and Le Duc Tho, advisers to the party Central Committee, were also on hand. In attendance were also nearly 40 trade union and workers delegations from various countries around the world.

Following the opening speech by Comrade Pham The Duyet, chairman of the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions [VCTU], Comrade General Secretary Duong Xuan An presented a report on the status and tasks of the VCTU Executive Committee. The report assessed the workers and civil servants movement and the VCTU's activities over the past 5 years and pointed out the orientation and tasks of the workers and civil servants movement and trade unions' activities in the national renovation process and in strengthening solidarity and the unity of action with the world's laboring people and workers movement.

Delegation Visits UK To Discuss Refugee Problems

BK1410161588 Hanoi VNA in English
1506 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA/OANA October 14—A Vietnamese delegation led by Vu Khoan, assistant to the foreign minister, paid a working visit to London from October 10-12 at the invitation of the British Foreign Office.

The delegation was received by Tim Eggar, deputy foreign secretary, with whom it discussed issues of mutual concern.

It held a second round of talks with a delegation of the British Government and the Hong Kong administration led by McLaren, assistant deputy foreign secretary. The two sides discussed ways of solving problems arising from the entry of Vietnamese boat people into Hong Kong after June 16, 1988. The discussions took place in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.

The two sides welcomed the progress made in preventing illegal departures following the first round of talks held in Hanoi on August 3-4 and recognized the importance of the Orderly Departure Programme. The two sides called on other countries to receive more Vietnamese boat people entering Hong Kong after June 16, 1988. The two sides agreed on the phased repatriation of

17 October 1988

Vietnamese in Hong Kong who had earlier sent their applications with the consent in principle of the British side to provide financial aid and the participation of the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. The two sides reaffirmed their intention to maintain close relations with a view to implementing the agreements already reached.

State Council Leader Speaks at VFF Congress

*BK1410122988 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 13 Oct 88*

[“Talk of the Week” feature]

[Summary from poor reception] “The congress of the Fatherland Front of Ho Chi Minh City was held late last September in the spirit of all for a democratic, stable life for the people. It was one of the active preparations for the Vietnam Fatherland Front national congress, which will be convened early next November.

“The words renovation and democracy were often mentioned in congress reports. They were also the subject of talks, exchanges, and debate outside the congress. This alone points to the fact that democracy and renovation have become an urgent demand of people from all walks of life in Vietnam.

“Vice President of the State Council Nguyen Huu Tho came and spoke to the congress. Though his speech was short, it received a great deal of applause since it dealt with democracy and other problems of great concern. After criticizing the [words indistinct] way of working of the city's Fatherland Front, Nguyen Huu Tho called for a harder struggle against conservatism, bureaucracy, inertia, and other social negative phenomena. He pointed out: This struggle, though unlike the previous struggle against the enemy, will be fierce one. He said further: I think that whether this congress is successful or not depends on your courage to struggle in the coming days. Democracy cannot be restored by patronage but by struggle. As an organization rallying masses, the VFF in its localities at this time has exerted its influence on certain circles.”

Over the past 13 years, since the liberation of Ho Chi Minh City, more than 5,500 intellectuals, including hundreds of professors and those with doctorates and masters, have joined the CPV. The party's spirit of renovation has a great impact on them and in the congress forum they have called for a more active role of the city's Fatherland Front, and better conditions for their life, work, creation, and contributions.

Also present at the congress were delegations of Overseas Vietnamese organizations. Bui Van Nam Son, head of the delegation of the Association of Vietnamese in the FRG, said: The policy of renovation at present is the decisive turning of strategic importance. There have

appeared conditions for the setting up of a united and solidarity front among the 2 million Overseas Vietnamese. This is what the VFF has to pay attention to.

Agreement on Australian Satellite Stations

*BK1610031088 Hanoi VNA in English
1522 GMT 15 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 15—A contract to develop and broaden Vietnam's international telecommunications system through INTELSAT has been signed here between the Vietnam General Department of Posts and Telecommunications and the Overseas Telecommunications Commission (OTC) of Australia.

The document signed by Dang Van Than, director of the General Department, and Peter Shore, general director of OTC, stipulates that the two sides will invest 15 million Australian dollars in two new INTELSAT standard satellite-earth stations and associated equipment in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City in 1988-1989.

The deal extends the relationship which OTC has previously established with Vietnam through the construction last year of a satellite earth station named VISTA in Ho Chi Minh City.

With the construction of these stations and the existing Intersputnik satellite earth stations, Vietnam will be able to broaden its telecommunications link with the world, thus meeting the needs of diplomatic and commercial offices, and particularly of overseas Vietnamese.

During its stay in Vietnam, the Australian delegation was received by Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Dong Sy Nguyen who welcomed the effective cooperation between OTC and the General Department on the basis of mutual benefit.

NHAN DAN Editor at Conference in New York

*BK1710093988 Hanoi VNA in English
0723 GMT 17 Oct 88*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 17—Thanh Tin, deputy editor-in-chief of NHAN DAN, attended the round-table conference of journalists from French-speaking countries recently held at the UN Headquarters in New York.

After the conference, Thanh Tin visited the CBS Television Corporation and the editorial board of THE NEW YORK TIMES at the invitation of his American colleagues.

Situation of Vietnamese Workers in Ukraine

*BK1410134788 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0015 GMT 9 Oct 88*

[Interview with Xuan Ba, Vietnamese-language paper TIEN PHONG correspondent, who recently visited Kharkov, by Moscow Radio broadcaster Irina; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Irina] Brother Xuan Ba, did you have any ideas about the situation of the Vietnamese youth in the Soviet Union before your departure for Kharkov?

[Xuan Ba] I have a niece who is a high school graduate. A year ago she adamantly asked her parents for permission to join a group of Vietnamese going to the Soviet Union under a labor cooperation program. At that time I asked her why she wanted to go. Smilingly, she replied: Uncle, I want to travel to improve my knowledge. On the day she left, I chatted with some of her girlfriends who were gathering at the air terminal. One of the girls told me: As my family is poor, I want to go earn some money to save for my future. Nga, my niece, interrupted saying: Not only money but also a profession, uncle.

Recently, to my great surprise, I learned that she had written to her parents, firmly asking for their permission to come home. Her letter reads roughly as follows: Daddy and Mommy, I am very sad. Job availability here is intermittent while income is low. Travel to visit friends is difficult. I feel that my life would have been much better had I not left.

My official trip to the Soviet Union is now nearing completion. From what I have personally heard and seen at a number of places in Kharkov City, I would like to elaborate on my niece's complaints. A seemingly prevalent problem at various factories such as the electrochemical, ball-bearing, thread spinning, and leather shoes factories in Kharkov, is that their production tools are obsolete and break down frequently. It should be pointed out here that a cadre at a leather shoe factory told me that the same old production chain that is turning out various types of shoes has been doing so since Lenin's time. Even worse, production organization is not good. Many times workers have to stay home because of equipment breakdowns or because of the shortage of raw material, thus leading to low labor productivity. Vietnamese workers' income is evidently low. That is why they are not very enthusiastic. [passage omitted]

[Irina] During our working tour in Kharkov, we attended an interesting Soviet-Vietnam congress. The congress

was organized at the club of an electric motors manufacturing factory. [passage omitted]

[Irina] I took another look at the clock. Time seemed to fly very quickly. Before saying good-bye to Xuan Ba, I asked him the same question that other friends had already answered at the above-mentioned congress: What do you think about the future trend of development of our labor cooperation? Is it going upward or downward?

[Xuan Ba] Your question is very interesting but I think it is difficult to answer. Anyway, the situation of Vietnamese workers going to the Soviet Union under the labor cooperation program is bad, very bad. In my opinion, all of the Vietnamese workers I have met in the Soviet Union are highly respectable individuals. Most of them are hard-working, love their work, and enjoy job security and earning some money. Of course there have been cases of a worm spoiling the whole apple. However, at almost all the places I have visited, our brothers and sisters have maintained their good quality and followed the work style that many Soviet foremen have painstakingly taught them. This is something very valuable for them.

However, as I have already said, the situation is deteriorating. It is very difficult to solve the problem, yet this does not mean that we cannot do it. If the responsible Soviet and Vietnamese organs do not consider this problem as something that needs to be solved immediately, then the consequences will be unpredictable and will seriously affect the friendship and economic cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union.

I want to be more specific. I wonder if it is a good idea to work out new protocols to amend those unreasonable clauses of the treaty [of friendship and cooperation] that were signed in 1981 and that have become very outdated. This means that everything is within our reach. By this I mean within the reach of the responsible organs of the two countries. [passage omitted]

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

18 Oct. 1988

